*Cambridge **SPORTS A-Z** Chronicl**e***

c.38.01 : Athletics
Marathon Competitors, King's Parade c1900 *99.01*
Includes running, marathons

188-
Charlie Rowell long-distance champion – feature – 60 01 07b

1880 02 13
Champion runner Mike Newton came to Folk Museum Cambridge in search of a legend. There he was able to wear a belt won 100 years ago by Charlie Rowell, the 'Long Distance Champion of the World. He first won it at Madison Square Garden, New York in 1879 and went on to gain it outright with three six-day wins in succession the following year. Charlie's record of running 258 miles in 48 hours has remained unbeaten for over 100 years. 82 02 13a

1902 03 21
The fifth annual race promoted by the Cambridge Cross County Union was decided over the county course. The competitors having been photographed were send on their journey. The Champion of the County, F. Hewish was the first man home. C.A. Mitchell ran well for the second place and H.H. Stacey was third. The Albert Institute Harriers who won the first race in 1898 got all their men home in the first seven CDN 1902 03 21

1905
Marathon race Milton Road school to Stretham bridge & return held (last one) [5.12]

1906 09 22
The family of Rowell has long been identified with sport in Cambridge. Now Edward Rowell, a cousin of one time Go-as-you-please Champion, 'Charlie', is making a name for himself as an all-round athlete in Australia where he has won enough money to secure a fine business: one match over hurdles brought him £300. He added to his reputation as a footballer and when that season ended he took up cricket, being voted the best batsman in West Australia. 06 09 22

1908 12 25
The Boxing Day Costermonger's Marathon Race started from Abbey Street with each competitor pushing a barrow to the Bottisham Swan (a distance of six miles) and back. Performances of the romantic drama 'From Shop Girl to Duchess' at the New Theatre appealed to many, while there were cinematograph exhibitions at the Guildhall and at Sturton Town Hall CWN 08 12 25

1908 08 07
Mammoth Show weather will soon be a synonym for a cloudless sky and a balmy atmosphere. There have been five of these huge exhibitions on successive August Bank Holidays attracting thousands of visitors to Midsummer Common and discouraging Cambridge residents from scampering off to other places. There were competitions for dogs, poultry, cage birds and fancy rats together with athletics and motor cycle races. CEN 08 08 07

1908 04 25
In all probability we have seen the last athletic flat race meeting in Cambridge. After struggling for several years the Liberal Athletic Union received one last blow in with the poorest attendance on record. For a large gate at least cycle races, and perhaps motor races, are required but the University will not permit these at Fenner's although similar cinder tracks are used for both. The weather did not help with three inches of snow on the ground in the morning. But the sun shone with great power and the track dried. 08 04 25a & b [6.28]

1909
football : Cambridge schoolboy football starts with formation of Cambridge Schoolboys Athletic Association [4.14]

1909 09 03
'Charlie' Rowell, one of the greatest long-distance runners the world has ever seen, died at his residence in King Street. In the days when six-day races were popular Rowell was a name to conjure in two continents. He won races innumerable, won a cart-load of trophies and cash prizes to an enormous value. He paid several visits to America where on one occasions his opponents drugged his food but he still finished second! CWN 09 09 03 Runner : 100 miles in 13 hrs.26m.30s.; 200 miles 35.9.28; 300 58.17.6; won 'Long distance champion of world' belt USA 1879; set 48 hour 257ª miles - oldest running record, lasted over 100 years; year before died took part in professional marathon, was out of training & fell out but strain contributed to death, for 6 months an invalid [12.5]

1909 12 31
The Costermongers Boxing Day Marathon race was run between East Road and Bottisham and back. It is open to men who earn their living by hawking and the fact that 17 came forward with their barrows in such unfavourable conditions says a good deal for their hardiness.. Soon mud began to bespatter the runners. Tom Nunn took the lead in the outward journey but was finally beaten by Sam George CWN 09 12 31

1913
Borough police athletic society sports the most successful held [7.17]

1914 01 02
There were animated scenes along the road between Cambridge and Bottisham on Boxing Day when the annual Costers' Marathon took place. A big crowd saw the 14 competitors start from Abbey Street. They had to travel to Bottisham and back, a distance of 11 miles, pushing a coster's barrow before them. Ben Warren led practically all the way covering the distance to Bottisham rapidly, but facing the wind on the return leg left all competitors severely tired. Most finished and received half-a-crown. 14 01 02c pic 14 01 02d costermongers race : last one held [2.10]

1919 11

H.M. Abrahams wins Freshman's sports 100 yards, mile & long jump [2.18]

1923 05 24
An attendance of upwards of 5000 at the first athletics meeting held on the Town Football Club's ground, Milton road, may be regarded as entirely satisfactory. The first part of the day was taken up with six-a-side football. The various races were keenly contested on a track which made the cyclists very cautious. In two of the races there were two nasty spills. Sir Douglas Newton presented the Invicta cycle to Mr Fuller of Shelly row, who was the fortunate winner of a handsome machine given to the purchaser of a ticket before the day of the event. The proud processor was apparently not a cyclist, for he wheeled it around the track, notwithstanding that the spectators invited him to "jump on and ride" 23 05 24

1924
H.M. Abrahams won 100 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1928
Lord Burghley won 400 metres, D.G.A. Lower 800 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1936 03 21
Harry Pitt of Manor Cottage, Church Road has written recalling 'The Walking Lady of Chesterton'. "She walked for a wager 'a thousand miles in a thousand hours' in a private garden in Church Street, Chesterton 60 years ago. I have been told that she walked in tights with high-topped boots, a jockey's cap and whip in hand. The story goes that she kept up her one mile per hour, walking day and night until she completed her task and won the wager." Other readers may enlighten us still further 36 03 21c

1936 03 28
Charles Rowell running recollections – 36 03 28b

1943 07 23
Athletics ground needed – long overdue – 43 07 23

1946
Athletics : Cambridge city athletics club reformed [4.9]

1947
Harold Abraham, Olympic champion in 1920, 24 & 28 appointed Regional Controller of Ministry of Town & Country planning at Cambridge [3.11]

1950 02 28
Athletics : Chris Brasher, St Johns wins University mile in 4 minutes 27.7 seconds [3.10]

1954 06 08
New Whit-Monday gala - sports, 3,000 attend [5.11, 5.20]

1957 01 14
Local sportsmen gathered to pay tribute to Stanley Martin who is retiring as secretary of the Cambridgeshire Amateur Athletics Association after 25 years. In that time nine members have represented their country, five of them in the Olympic Games, and 13 Cambridge University Blues have also come from the Association's ranks. In 1925 they went to Joshua Taylor's to buy coloured vests but found they had only white ones in stock. So they had to buy some blue and green straw-hat ribbons to use as distinguishing sashes - colours they have used ever since. 57 01 14 & 14a

1959 11 27

New Cambridge University track; first time CU athletics match not held at Fenner's which has oldest cinder track in world; opened 1846, c 1867 cinder track laid [12.4] Milton Road new athletics track opened – 59 11 27d

1963 02 23
Despite appalling conditions the national cross-country championships attracted more than 250 runners to the Coldham's Common course. The race started near the old rifle butts with a dash through ice-fields and bumpy ground towards the gas works, over a bridge built by the Territorial Army then past the Whitehill Estate, keeping to the rough of the Priory School playing fields to the railway bridge. Then runners were on the course proper. A special trains was laid on from Liverpool Street with buses to Coleridge School 63 02 23a 63 03 04 & a

1967 06 14
Cambridge "do away with Fenner's cinder track" [13.7]

1972 03 13
Cross-country: international championship held Cambridge [12.6]

1972 09 29
Magdalene college closes sports ground - too expensive to maintain [11.4]

1985 05 24
May get new track, city, university & private interest] hope running track, sports hall, indoor artificial playing surface, swimming pool; £6M scheme gets go-ahead Wilberforce Rd, plan open 1989 [12.7]

1986 07 28
David Morgan wins Commonwealth Gold medal, light heavy-weight lifting [11.11]

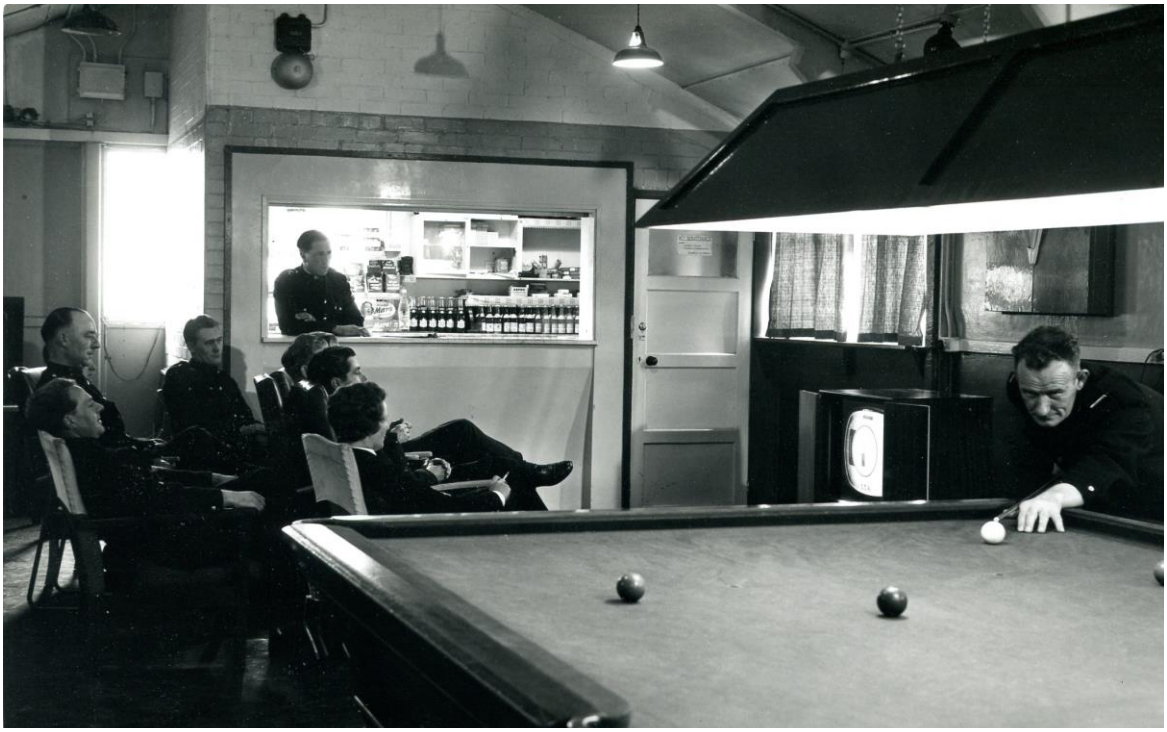
1988 10 20
Coe & Cram run round Trinity Gt Court ¢CEN 20.10.88

1988 11 02
A new University sports complex off Madingley Road will cater for every level from general recreation to high-performance athletes. The first phase will include a 10-lane Olympic-standard synthetic athletics track with field events facilities and a pavilion. Later there will be a 34-metre swimming pool with a deep-water full-size international water polo court. A sports hall, rowing, training tank, combat salle, dance studio, squash and fives court and table tennis facilities will follow 88 11 02; planners reject ¢CEN 15.6.89

1989 06 28
Two internationally-known developers plan a giant new sports complex sprawling over 40 acres between King's Hedges and the northern bypass. It would have a wide range of indoor and outdoor facilities including an indoor pool and an athletics track for public use. It is on land soon to be removed from the green belt, close to the site of the new Regional College. The scheme comes after planners snubbed a £20 million scheme by Cambridge University to build a sports complex in the west of the city. 89 06 28

1990 05 24
International standard University sports complex planned for west Cambridge – 90 05 24a

1990 09 18
Leisure facilities plan including ice-skating, roller skating and ten-pin bowling at Histon Road may be shelved – 90 09 18



Ambulance men play billiards as they wait for a call, 1956 *200.12*

c.38.02 : Billiards & Snooker

1906 12 29
Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. 06 12 29a

1911
Billiards : challenge match played [4.17]

1912
Billiards league set up [4.17]

1913 10 17
Billiard league first annual meeting 13 10 17 p10 CIP

1938 02 04
Joe Davis' billiards club - women's world champ [1.2]

1954 04 14
Since the inauguration of the C.D.N. Snooker Cup for the amateur championship of Cambridgeshire in 1946, only three names have previously been inscribed on this coveted trophy. Now that of L.T. Ambrose has joined the names of P.G.T. Hughes, A.L. Batterbee and R.E. Williams. In the final he beat W. Philpott through superior tactical play. Philpott played the bolder type of snooker and at times got in some delightful pots. He was always prepared to go for 'near impossible' shots and twice got two glorious pinks only to see the white disappearing also. But Ambrose relied on the 'safety first' motto, which in the end paid dividends. 54 04 14

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1982 04 23
Snooker has gained a new respectability, operating from high-class, exclusive clubs. Now the Dodgers Snooker and Billiard Club has opened in the old historic Newnham Watermill. It has five new tables of the finest Brazilian mahogany and an antique match table which has been restored to its original condition. With each table weighing over a ton, the floors have been reinforced. Members are issued with a computer-controlled access card with video cameras acting as a double check against gatecrashers. 82 04 23a [17.7]

1989 06 26
Cambridge Snooker Club is to close after five years because of redevelopment. Memberships will be transferred to Frames in Coldham's Lane, a popular social & sports mecca. Each has 800 members and 20 tables 89 06 26

Bowls on Christs Pieces, 1940s 86.179

c.38.03 : Bowls
1911
Part of Christ's Pieces opened [7.14]

1919
Romsey green laid; Romsey bowls club formed 1922 [13.3]

1922 05
Romsey recreation ground bowling green opened [2.20]

1925 05
Christ's Pieces bowling green opened [3.6]

1925 12
County bowling association formed [3.8]

1927 06
First County bowls match in Cambridge [4.3]

1928 09
Bowls : £3,000 scheme for improvement announced [4.6]

1929 06
Bowls : 2 Cumberland turf greens, 1st in district, opened Brooklands Avenue [4.7]

1933 10 13
Indoor bowling green Brooklands Ave opened, one of first in country [1.7,13.1]

1939 07 25
Waterworks Company new bowling green opened, the only one with an air raid shelter – 39 07 25

1957 07 17
Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1958 01 31
New bowls club for ladies – 58 01 31

1967 11 07
Chesterton Bowls Club was founded in 1931 with HQ in Milton Road. The lease expires next year; now found new site on St Andrew's Road – 67 11 07a; 67 12 30

1974 09 21
The opening of Cambridge's new indoor bowls centre at Chesterton brings to a climax many months of work by a group of bowlers who can now boast the only six-rink indoor green in the country. Sited next to their outdoor green in Logan's Way, the impressive new building is the next best thing to bowling on a warm summer's day. Already there are 400 bowlers on the membership lists and secretary N. Harper-Scott says there is still room for more 74 09 21

1977 08 29
Chesterton open £80,000 indoor rink [13.2]

c.38.031: bowls, 10 pin

1961 11 10
A London company who hope to build a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre on land at the 'Willows' in Chesterton has offered to pay the expenses of any residents wishing to see their Stamford Hill, London, facilities. There would be a social centre and bowling alley with restaurant and snack bar as well as a nursery for the babies while their parents play. The centres are well-run, clean and open, giving very little trouble, they claim 61 11 10

1962 01 15
Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre to be built on The Willows site at Cam Road have been rejected. Planners say it would be out of character in a residential area and should be located near a community centre or shops. The application by Contemporary Homes Ltd for a bowling centre with restaurant and a place where parents could leave their children had brought objections from local householders. 62 01 15c 17.13

1964 01 07
Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling alley on Mill Road have been approved subject to conditions that the premise should be closed between midnight and 8am. It would include a snack bar, changing rooms, kitchen and offices. But now developers want to extend the project to include either a dance floor or ice-rink, a public house with flat over, service station with office and parking for 150 cars. 64 01 07

1965 04 08
Tenpin bowling alley, Mill Road to open; one of principal recreation places in city – 65 04 08c

1970 02 17

Tenpin bowling rink, Mill Road, shuts down suddenly by Magnet Bowling who opened it in 1965, had been running at loss for 3 years – 70 02 17

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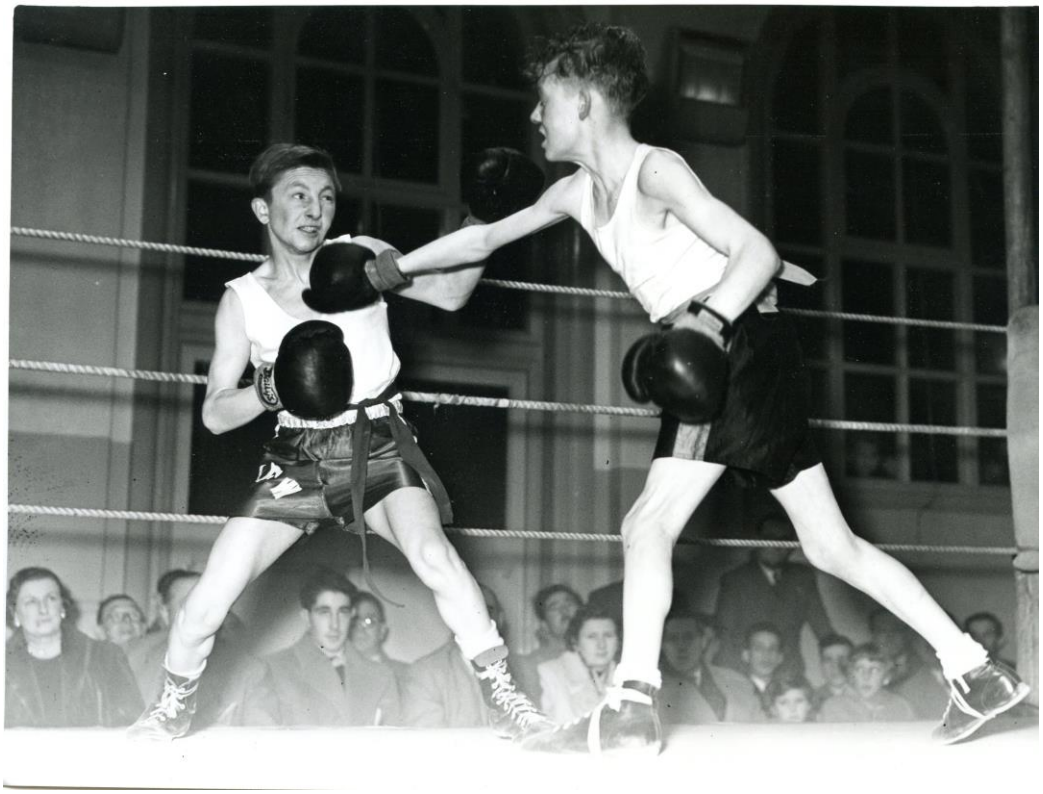

Boxing match, 1950s

201.13

c.38.04 : Boxing

1907 06 22
Wrestlers' Arms reminiscence – boxing – 07 06 22d

1909 04 16
In a shoeing forge at Northampton Street, Cambridge, is to be seen a massive silver cup, the trophy of the Middle Weight Amateur Boxing Championships for 1909. In the same forge is a young smith, a splendid specimen of manhood with arms and legs of remarkable development. He is Mr William Child who for two years has carried off the Middle Weight Championship of England 09 04 16

1910 02 11
Harry Cox of King Street was an old pugilist who learnt in a hard school where gloves were regarded as unnecessary. He started in a travelling fairground booth but when he visited Midsummer Fair decided to settle in Cambridge. He took part in many open-air fights without the sanction of the law which were witnessed by large numbers. Pupils from the University attended his rooms at the Green Lion in Short Street and later at the Royston Arms, Jesus Lane. "Professor Cox" also gave lessons at St John's and other colleges and several University champions passed through his hands including T. Milvain of Trinity Hall who was heavyweight champion of All England in 1868-69 and is now Judge Advocate General. 10 02 11c

1924 04 02
Many local boxing enthusiasts will learn with regret that the death has occurred of Cox Griffiths, the wrestling and boxing champion. His record at wrestling was a lengthy and creditable one. He had met several champions on the music hall stage. By trade he was a blacksmith and a toolmaker but he was perhaps best known as University instructor. For 20 years he was a publican in Cambridge and recently carried on business as a bottle merchant and general dealer 24 04 02

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1932 06 07
Stan Waller, the Cambridge middle-weight boxer and one of the best in the country, has returned from a tour to South Africa designed to re-establish boxing in the public taste, for they have gone all-in-wrestling mad. He beat Eddie McGuire, the South African champion in a bout in Johannesburg. Meanwhile Cambridge had its first taste of open-air boxing with a tournament on the Town Football Ground promoted by Arthur Waller 32 06 07a aa b

1933 04 07
The early days of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club were recalled by W. Child, the well-known referee. They began by buying a second-hand pair of gloves and fighting under a street lamp until chased by a policeman. Then they hired a washhouse and met in various public houses. The club had passed through hard times and been near to pawning everything they had. But the fighting had always been clean in the best sporting spirit. On one occasion two Princes had attended a contest at the Corn Exchange to see their chauffeur box. 33 04 07 & a

1937 08 14
Boxing almost defunct in Cambridge – cartoon 37 08 14b

1938 06 03
Boxing : Boon wins boxing championship [1.3]

1939 02 24
Boxing : Boon retains title [1.1]

1944 04 08
Boxing : Eric Boon stars in film "Champagne Charlie" [1.21]

1949
Amateur Boxing Association reformed 1949 in former PoW camp chapel, Coldham's Lane [11.5]

1961 10 27
In a former prisoner-of-war camp chapel in Coldham's Lane members of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Association celebrated the start of a new season by flailing themselves, and each other, almost to husks. Membership is restricted only by the inability to pay the annual subscription – boxing ability is immaterial. Boys from the age of seven are provided with equipment and training and competitive bouts begin at the age of 11. One lad accumulated a host of silver-ware but became too successful as officials were unable to find anyone who would fight him 61 10 27

1962 09 26
Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club is seeking for a piece of land on which it can build a gymnasium in place of their headquarters in Henley Road. They have more new members than at any time in their history and have collected over £2,000 towards a new building which will include kitchen and seating accommodation. In addition the club's President, Arthur Cooper, has promised a brand new £100 ring. The season opens with a fixture against the University at the Corn Exchange with another in the Drill Hall, East Road 62 09 26b

1981 02 02
Cambridgeshire is the centre for illegal bare-knuckle fist-fights; they are straight knockabouts until one of the fighters drops and as much as £3,000 can change hands with single bets of around £50. A fight at Fen Road Chesterton involving two teenage boys from the gypsy fraternity and watched by a noisy crowd of more than 500 was abandoned when police moved in to break up the crowd, some of whom had travelled from all over the country. 81 02 02 [13.4]

1981 02 03
Bare-knuckle fights – history – 81 02 03

Night climbers with equipment,1930s *136.67*

c.38.05 : climbing / night climbing

1905 09 09
It is seldom that a Cambridge tradesman, in the short time he can allow himself for a holiday, undertakes such a hazardous venture as that successful accomplished by Mr Alphonso Smith. He has succeeded in ascending Mont Blanc only to find the little observatory on the summit so covered with snow that he could not find the door. It was so bitterly cold that he made only a very short stay. He has no wish to make a second ascent. 05 09 09 & a

1908 03 14
Undergraduates climb Backs trees, roped together in Alpine fashion - 08 03 14

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1922 06 03
Roof escapades by undergraduates have been numerous of late and the missing prehistoric fish weather vane on the Geological Museum dome is the outcome of one of those. Another high altitude

"rag" took place recently when handkerchiefs and clothing were tied to one of the towers of King's Chapel. A story has been told that a proposal of marriage was made and accepted on a college roof during a nocturnal excursion in which undergraduate students of the fair sex took part. Can it be that this story was circulated to try and throw the blame on the ladies for removing the prehistoric fish? 22 06 03

1924 01 26
A particularly sad story was related to the Cambridge coroner when an inquiry was held into the death of a 18 year old student at Girton College. The girl, who was stated to be fond of rock climbing, attempted to ascend the Tower of the college with the intention of seeing an owls nest. Apparently she slipped and fell to the ground. From the injuries sustained to her legs she evidently alighted on her feet, which goes to prove that she hung on somewhere for a moment before she fell. Before she died she had said, "I so wanted to see the little owls" 24 01 26

1932 05 18
Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 05 21
The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 06 01
The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 06
Nightclimbing craze spreads to Emmanuel – 32 06 06d

1933 06 13
The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1935 02 11

At Trinity Hall porters were busy pulling down a motley assortment of bedroom and bathroom utensils which had mysterious appeared on the roof and pinnacles of the college. Water jugs, tied to the roof with gay scarves, formed a large part of the amateur decorators' efforts, but even an armchair somehow got on to the roof and caused no small trouble in getting in down. The college say it was 'just a bit of sport' and have not discovered the identity of the persons responsible 35 02 11a

1936 03 14
Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 04 27
Some members of King's College went mountaineering last night. A Union Jack and the Abyssinian emblem were fixed to the pinnacles at the east end of the chapel with a large banner slung between them bearing the words 'Save Ethiopia". The flags were still flying during the morning but the banner was blown down by the wind. A man who was astir early claimed to have seen four undergraduates climbing up at four o'clock. Unfortunately he was unable to see what means of assistance they were using in their climb, otherwise one of Cambridge's age-old mysteries would have been solved 36 04 27c

1937 10 16
Roof-climbing – Ronald Searle cartoon – 37 10 16a

1949 01 31
A bicycle appeared on the weather vane of the Cambridge school of geography, Downing Place, over the weekend. Various articles are put on university buildings from time to time, but usually without much point. This escapade has a real point to it. The weather vane is on the roof where weather observation is carried on, with the aid of rain graphs, thermometers, barographs and other meteorological equipment. The practical joker apparently thought it would be a good idea to give the meteorologists a new weather cycle 49 01 31

1957 05 24
The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1964 04 24
In the very early hours young men venture out intent on scaling some of the university buildings. Night climbers are not an organised society, just individuals who know the other students who participate. The porter's lodge at King's is an irresistible challenge, not because of any climbing difficulty but because of the imminent danger of being discovered by college porters below. Climbers usually tie a piece of rope at the top of a building, though sometimes an item of female underwear is seen flapping gaily in the breeze the next morning. 64 04 24e

1965 06 07
'Peace in Vietnam' banner strung across pinnacles at King's chapel by night climbers – 65 06 07

1975 08 11
Tourists and passers-by took little interest as two men groped their way up the south pinnacle of King's college chapel. They were steeplejacks from a London firm engaged by the college to remove

a lavatory seat which has crowned the chapel since it mysteriously appeared on the pinnacle three weeks ago. It all looked easy as one man finally stood at the top waving the offending object high over his head 75 08 11

Australians at Fenners, the Varsity taking the field, 1956 *110.66*

c.38.06 : Cricket

1889
County Cricket Association formed [4.10,5.1,13.8]

1892 11 01
Fenner's purchased [2.15]

1900 07 25
Sir – I was pleased to notice that someone has at last had the courage to write about the wretched condition of Parker's Piece. Our last wicket was not only full of holes but we had a little hill rising a yard and a half in front of the block. Twelve shillings were paid for this wicket and a tent, whereas a college ground and pavilion (with a splendid wicket) can be hired for 7s.6d. Our cricket club have been so disgusted with the wickets that we have decided not to play again this season on Parker's Piece unless it is impossible to get a wicket elsewhere – Disgusted Cricketer 00 07 25

1901 07 15
Cricketers will learn with much regret at the death at his residence, Mill Road, Cambridge, of the veteran cricketer and umpire, Bob Carpenter. He was 27 when he played in his first match at Lord's for the United England XI. A powerful hitter, his favourite stroke was to square leg. Playing for Cambridgeshire against Surrey in 1861 he made an innings of 100 described as "probably the greatest display of batting the world has ever seen". He played regularly for England in company with two other Cambridgeshire cricketers 'Pepper' Tarrant and Tom Hayward' CDN 1901 07 15

1902 04 24

Tom Hayward, the cricketer, was the recipient of an expression of that pride and admiration which his fellow-townsmen so unstintingly entertain for the man and the sportsman. It took the form of the time-honoured complimentary dinner at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge on the occasion of his return home after a most successful cricketing tour in Australia. Mr Hayward thanked the company for the kind reception which made him more nervous than playing before 40,000 people. As to the tour they had a very pleasant time. There was only one thing to mar it and that was losing four out of five of the test matches. But they had bad luck, all their best bowlers being ill or injured. 02 04 24

1904 06 10
Cambridge Victoria Cricket Club celebrated its jubilee. From as far back as 1855 there are complete histories of matches played. The first took place between teams captained by Mr Goody and Mr Merry. In 1859 an All England XI played 22 of Cambridge Town on Parker's Piece, five of whom were from the Victoria Club. In the early 1860's there was keen rivalry with village of Abington who possessed a very decent eleven composed of people gathered from surrounding places such as Linton, Hinxton and even Cambridge. The Victorians were so keen they played cricket whenever the opportunity offered, even on ice when 'the ball was returned very quickly and a number of men run out' – CDN 10.6.1904

1906 06 16
Mr W. Saunders of Histon has had a remarkable cricketing career over the last 52 years. He learned to play on Parker's Piece and formed a club at Impington until its field was sold. In the 1860s Cambridgeshire occupied the premier position in county cricket and he was numbered amongst some of the finest players in the country being chosen to play against the first All England eleven to visit Australia. 06 06 16b

1906 07 07
Tom Hayward, cricketer, may retire. 06 07 07c

1908 03 25
Fenner's – memories of Walter Watts – 08 03 25 & a

1908 10 23
Ranjitsinhji, now Jam of Nawanagar honoured – CWN 08 10 23

1910 06 03
Daniel Hayward senior was brother of Tom Hayward, the famous All England cricketer of the 1850s and 60s and father of the present Tom Hayward, the well-known Surrey batsman. His other sons include Dan, the present University custodian of Fenner's and Frank who frequently appears in local cricket. In his early youth he was a cricketer of more than ordinary ability as a wicket-keeper whose form gained him a place in some of the great matches. He was landlord of the Prince Regent for 42 years having entered into occupation on 24th June 1868. 10 06 03i

1912 04 26
Jack Hobbs dinner at Lion Hotel – 12 04 26 & a

1914 01 23
Tom Hayward, the great Cambridge and Surrey cricketer was quietly married at Wandsworth Registry Office. The arrangements were kept very secret but a 'Daily Sketch' photographer saw the happy couple leave. His wife, Matilda Mitchell, is one of the most famous of women detectives; a tall vivacious blonde, she was head of the secret service staff at Selfridge's. Tom will retire from cricket next year, she says – 14 01 23b

1917 01 31
Mr. W. Saunders is well-known in cricket circles throughout the county. His unbroken cricketing career extended over 50 years - probably a record never beaten in England - and was captain of the

famous cup-fighting, village cricket club (Histon and Impington) for 25 years. He was presented with a silver rose bowl to commemorate the event. The first time an England XI returned from Australia (in the sixties) they were opposed by another team, picked from all England, on Parker's Piece. The latter side, for whom Mr. Saunders made 22 and took a number of wickets with his slow bowling, won. In those days, playing for Cambridgeshire against such sides as Yorkshire and other counties, Mr. Saunders - an amateur, was a successful bowler. Cambridgeshire at that time had some of the finest cricketers in England, including Bob, Carter, George Tarrant, Tom and Dan Hayward (uncle and father respectively of Tom, of Surrey fame 17 01 31 CIPof

1919 04 23
The future of cricket – cricket association – detailed article – 19 04 23b

1925 08
Cricket : Jack Hobbs scores his 127th century, breaking Grace's record [3.7]

1927 05
K.S. Duleepsinhji scores 254 not out - record for Fenner's - in Varsity match v Middlesex [4.1]

1930 03 27
Ideal cricket weather favoured the long-awaited opening of the Hobbs Pavilion on Parker's Piece by the Mayor of Cambridge in the presence of Mr & Mrs Jack Hobbs. He was the greatest cricketer the world had ever known and had learned to play within sight of this new pavilion. All that was needed was a record of his achievements to hang in the building, but those were not yet over. It would induce the younger sportsmen to become keen again and to carry on the traditions so that in future Cambridge would never be without its representatives in first-class cricket. 30 03 27a [5.14]

1930 09 18
Jack Hobbs came for the first time since the opening of the pavilion that bears his name. He brought one of the most brilliant cricket teams that Parker's Piece has ever seen with seven who have captained England including Hobbs himself and O'Connor, both of whom learned the game in Cambridge. By two o'clock there were at least 5,000 spectators massed three and four deep round the entire field. Others stood on the running boards of cars drawn up in Park Terrace to see the game. 30 09 18b-c

1931 07 17
The question of cricket on Lammas Land, Newnham produced a spirited debate: old ladies crossing the grass might be hit with the hard cricket ball. The Commons Committee is going through a spasm of kill-joy spirit: boys played on the streets but as soon as they went to open space they were told they must not do so. Perhaps a soft ball could be used – or a golf ball. Newnham Institute sought permission for a cricket pitch, but this would turn it into a second Parker's Piece 31 07 17f & g

1931 12 25
Cambridge Rabbits' Cricket Club, formerly Heals, held their annual dinner at the Corner House Café, Petty Cury. They had enjoyed a most successful season and were thoroughly established and well-known. Mr D. Burton further showed his generosity by offering to present yet another cup for the most outstanding bowling performance of the season. His cup for the most outstanding performance went to Mr R.P. Fuller. 31 12 25d

1933 03 29
Cricket memories book – 33 03 29 & a

1933 04 08
Ranjitsinhji appreciation – 33 04 08 & a

1933 06 30

Cricket : on Parkers Piece : 25 runs scored in 3 balls (10,7,8) [1.6]

1934 05 09
Donald Bradman, Australia's wonder batsman, keeps very much in the news. In most cases it is his century habit that brings him the limelight – but not so against Cambridge University at Fenner's. For 'Don' was out for a duck, clean bowled by a slow leg-break from J.G.W. Davies of St John's. Two thousand people cheered Bradman when he went in to bat but the fourth ball send down found his stump 34 05 09 [2.25]

1935 02 26
John Berry ('Jack') Hobbs has bidden farewell to first-class cricket. His retirement will cause general regret. "Mrs Hobbs thinks I ought to go on to get my 200 centuries", he said, but he needs two new legs: "after many years in the field mine get very tired nowadays about four o'clock". He will continue to play in club cricket and all in Cambridge hope to see that flashing bat in action again on Parker's Piece, the scene of his early triumphs 35 02 26

1936 06 04
Jack Hobbs unveiled a tablet in the Hobbs Pavilion setting forth his wonderful achievements in first-class cricket. The proceedings had been delayed as Hobbs would not stop making records. Jack said that although wobbly at the knees, he still played. "I can visualise the youngsters coming and looking at the board and saying 'He must have been a real good player'. When I look at that board I begin to think I must have been". (Laughter and applause) 36 06 04c

1936 09 04
Fenners cricket ground was opened in 1846 but there have been only three groundsmen, Tom Parmenter who remained to 1862, Walter Watts and Dan Hayward who took over in 1908. He has also been custodian of the University Football and Hockey Grounds. His father used to look over the Rugger and Soccer pitches on Parker's Piece where they played until the Grange Road ground opened in 1896 and the two clubs amalgamated. Dan's own sport is cricket and he once took all ten wickets for 32 runs, though he considers his nine wickets for eight runs against Bury to be his best performance. Now he is retiring 36 09 04a

1939 07 21
Cricket: Death of Thomas Walter Hayward at his home in Glisson Road. Was one of the most famous professional batsmen that cricket has even known. He was 68 years of age, and although many years had elapsed since he last played, he still held many records at the time of his death. His father was Daniel and his uncle, Thomas another fine batsman in the sixties. Tom Hayward was born in Cambridge on March 19, 1871, and first came into the public eye by some fine performances when playing with the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. He went to the Oval in 1891and qualified for Surrey. At first he was a good medium pace bowler and outfielder, but later concentrated on run-getting. When he finished his first class career at the end of 1914, he had made 43,518 runs, with an average of nearly 42, and had scored 104 centuries. He was the first batsman after W.G. Grace to complete 100 centuries, and in 1906 scored 3,518 runs. It was at Hay ward's persuasion that Jack Hobbs decided to abandon second class cricket. The two made prolific opening stands for Surrey. Their association began in 1905 and two of their partnerships produced over 300 runs and 40 over three figures. In one week in 1907 they topped the 100 four times. On the only occasion on which they played together for England they were not particularly successful. Hayward visited Australia three times, and altogether played in 29 Test matches and batted 51 times. During 1906, he scored four centuries in succession, and 13 centuries. His highest score, 315, was made against Lancashire at the Oval in 1898. 39 07 21 CIPof. Obituary – 39 07 20a

1940 09 27
Bombs on famous cricket ground – photo – 40 09 27

1950 06 19

Not many people seem to realise that women have been playing cricket now for over 50 years and that in these sex-equality days there are still some who think it is still not quite the right sort of sport for young ladies to indulge in. Cambridge Women's Cricket Club has been in existence for just over two years – and as yet no one quite experienced enough has played for her county. Cambridge has an overarm bowling rule and has little or no experience against the underarm method. They were rather flummoxed when they first played a village women's team who used this style of delivery, but they are getting accustomed to it now 50 06 19

1953 02 09
Cricket : funeral of Dan Hayward [4.20]

1953 05 13
An eager group of schoolboys armed with autograph albums were among the first to welcome the Australian cricketers when they arrived in Cambridge for their match with the University. The youngsters crowded round Arthur Morris, who is captaining the side because Lindsay Hassett is unfit, and then hurried on to Ray Lindwall, young Ian Craig, Neil Harvey, Don Tallon and the others. The Australians signed their names cheerfully; they are soft-spoken, unexcitable men, whose appearance and manner off the field give no hint of the devastating ability which has already humbled Yorkshire and Surrey

1953 06 30
Jack Hobbs knighted [5.3]

1954 05 06
New Fenner's score box replaces one badly damaged during War [5.10]

1956 03 24
Camden cricket club history 75 years 56 03 24a & b

1961 03 16
Camden cricket club seek own ground – 61 03 16a

1961 04 08
William Buttress, born 1827, one of the greatest break bowlers of all times – history – 61 04 08

1961 04 14
Robert Carpenter, bowler 1830-1901, Tom Hayward & other cricketers - feature – 61 04 14d

1962 04 25
St Giles Cricket Club history – 62 04 25

1962 06 15
New Churchill college ground opened [13.6]

1963 12 21
Sir John Berry (Jack) Hobbs, one of Cambridge's legendary names in cricket, dies.- 63 12 21; tributes – 63 12 23

1964 01 03
John Berry Hobbs – feature – 64 01 03b

1964 08 01
Madingley Cricket Club, who have bought the old Queens' College pavilion on the Barton Road ground, may cut it in sections and move it that way. Queens' new pavilion, which is a memorial to a former president, Dr J.A. Venn, will be ready for the start of term and the groundsman has already

moved into an adjoining bungalow. It has the most modern facilities in Cambridge with showers, toilets and its own bar. But the planned car park has been left for a later date. 64 08 01a

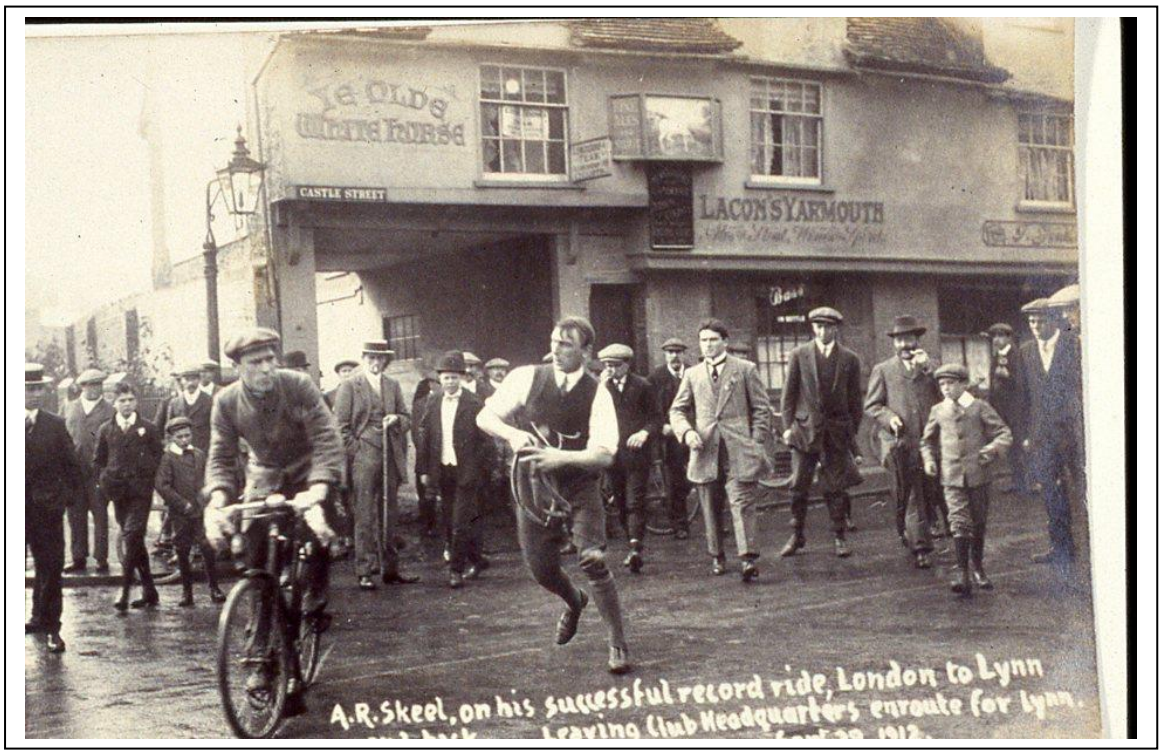
1972 09 05
Demolition of University pavilion built Fenner's 1875 [11.3,13.9]

1981 03 11
Camden club celebrate centenary, formed 1881 [21.1]

1981 07 20
First women's three-day game, Fenner's [21.2]

1985
St Giles cricket club centenary [21.3]

1985 08 19
"Fenner's traditionally the venue for the first fixture of English first-class season" [21.4]


Ye Olde White Horse
CASTLE STREET
LACON'S YARMOUTH
A.R. Skeel, on his successful record ride, London to Lynn
leaving Club Headquarters enroute for Lynn.

A.R. Skeel on ride from London to King's Lynn, 1912 *172.50*

c.38.07 : Cycling
see also c. 26.485 bicycles

1899 11 08
At the Granta Cycling Club smoking concert the chairman said all cyclists in Cambridge were determined to have a cycle track. Every kind of athletics was catered for except cyclists. It was not fair to those who placed stock on Midsummer Common to have it there, and unless it was enclosed they would not get a 'gate' as people who paid to see races generally liked to go on a stand. If cyclists were determined to have a track they should collect a sum equivalent to that paid by those who put stock in the Common and then they could have their ground enclosed 1899 11 08

1903 06 10
The Granta Cycling Club ceased to exist when the annual meeting was held at the Blue Boar Hotel, Cambridge. When the track at the Backs of the Colleges was in use the membership rose to 50 but it has been gradually dwindling for the last three years since no cycling track has been available in Cambridge. In the event of a cycle track being obtained they will make an effort to revive the club. The balance sheet showed that the club died solvent. 03 06 10

1905 08 15
Proposed cycle track, Midsummer Common – 05 08 15a & b

1905 11 07
Dartigan, the only exponent of the daring and sensational acts of cycling around a loop heads the bill at the Auckland Road Hippodrome. The wonderful sight of a cyclist careering head downwards along the inverted part of the track aroused a storm of applause. Since he began his dangerous occupation he has experienced many accidents. Once at Yarmouth he fell from the top of the loop and his head crashed through the track with the result that his jaw and nose were broken and his head so severely injured that he sustained concussion of the brain. 05 11 07a

1906 02 15
Sidney Lack, the champion cyclist, has been suspended by the National Cycling Union and his licence cancelled, after taking part in a race at Wellingborough. Local crowds will be sorry if he is unable to compete as an amateur again. He was a great favourite, largely because of his reputation for riding 'straight'. But he has been approached by the British agent of the Paris Velodrome with a view to a career as a professional cyclist in Paris 06 02 15

1906 04 27
Sid Lack of Histon, whose exploits on the cycle track are famous, has left Cambridge for America. Mr Lack, who filled the position of second engineer at Chivers' factory, aims at finding more scope in his vocation and for a time will be engaged in a motor car business at Boston. He has at present no intention of taking up racing over there. 06 04 27

1906 09 29
Sid Lack, the famous Histon cyclist, has found that the American climate did not suit him and returned to Histon. But since losing his status as an amateur he has an inclination to go abroad. Now the whole of his household effects have been put under the hammer including his two racing machines, and he has set sail for Australia. If he takes up racing 'down under' his career will be watched with interest. 06 09 29

1907 05 06
A.G. Markham is amongst the front rank of road cyclists. At the North London Fifty Miles Invitation Road Race he was the only competitor riding a tricycle, covering the course in three hours, the fastest time every accomplished on one. This is remarkable as 25 of the 50 miles were covered against a strong wind. Even after such a punishing race, his stamina was such that he rode another 30 miles to his Cambridge home. 07 05 06 Name given to Markham Close on Kings Hedges estate [21.7] [3.3]

1908 04 25
In all probability we have seen the last athletic flat race meeting in Cambridge. After struggling for several years the Liberal Athletic Union received one last blow in with the poorest attendance on record. For a large gate at least cycle races, and perhaps motor races, are required but the University will not permit these at Fenner's although similar cinder tracks are used for both. The weather did not help with three inches of snow on the ground in the morning. But the sun shone with great power and the track dried. 08 04 25a & b [6.28]

1909 07 23
A.G. Markham cycling record – CWN 09 07 23

1909 08 13
Edwin Banks, captain of the Belmont Cycling Club created a record at the Mammoth sports by winning four championships in one afternoon. He became infatuated with the sport at the tender age of 13 and later became a member of the famous Manchester Wheelers, the wealthiest club in the world. He came to Cambridge in 1908 and last year won 17 prizes. He has had spills innumerable, suffering dislocated shoulders, a broken collar bone and a broken wrist. CWN 09 08 13

1912 08 02
Mr A.G. Markam, the ex-holder of the 100 miles' world's tricycle record and present holder of the 24 hours' Eastern Counties tricycle record, covered the splendid distance of 192 miles in twelve hours. For over 60 miles he had to struggle with a dead head wind which blew with tremendous strength across the open fenland. To make things worse, at 140 miles his stomach went wrong and he went all to pieces. Four times he gave up the ride as hopeless but his followers would not let him rest and after dosing him with brandy and bathing his head they managed to keep him at it. It is doubtful if any other man of his age – he is 44 and has been taking part in violent athletics for 26 years – would have done such a ride. 12 08 02aa

1915 07 09
Local casualties – includes Reginald Player world-famous cyclist 15 07 09 p5

1921 05
Cambridge District Association Cyclists Touring Club inaugural meeting, May 1921 [21.8]

1934 06 02
Arthur Markham was always of a cheery disposition and made friends in every walk of life. He was best-known as a cyclist and his 24 hours' tricycle record of 301 miles has never been eclipsed. He did many rides at 100 miles and his record made with the old steel wheels is still recognised as one of the best ever done. Even after his race days were done he would cycle long distances to assist with events. 34 06 02

1954 02 03
Mr Charles F. Morley, who died recently, was a cyclist who won the Eastern Counties championship for every distance from sprint to fifty miles. He was truly a great little sportsman. He was a founder member of the Granta Cycling Club & many of his successes were gained on the quarter mile circular dirt track of the University Bicycling Club off Grange Road. As a speed skater he was up with the amateurs of his day; he was elected chairman of the National Skating Association Fen Department and presented a handsome challenge cup. He was the sole survivor of a quartet of friends who made local and national history at the turn of the century including J.H. Priest, one-mile cycling champion, F.J. Christmas, cross-country champion and A.E. Tebbutt, amateur skating champion of Great Britain.

1958 04 29
The 60 miles, six-lap Gog Magog cycle road race started from the Red Lion, Cherry Hinton. It was neutralised over Limekiln Road but then three of the Cambridgeshire Road Club team, J. Morley, D. Cook and M. Pilsworth, made a break. Before Sawston, on the second lap, Mick Ward from Haverhill had to make mechanical adjustments but he was in fourth place by the time they came over the Gogs for the last time 58 04 29a

1965 10 15
Arthur Skeel, champion cyclist – profile – 65 10 15c

1970 01 12
Barnwell cycle racing school beat world 24-hour roller cycling record - now 1,008 miles [21.5]

1984 07 02
City centre cycling starts [21.9]

Darts match, 1950s *123.47*

c.38.08 : Darts

Star Brewery league one of first to be formed [21.10]

1930 04 11
The Cambridge Skittle League was formed in August and proved that the average man was a sportsmen; a lot of people were inclined to 'run down' the public house games such as darts, dominoes and shove ha'penny. The Skittles League met the requirements of these people and what should be more natural than they should go to the poor man's club – the local inn. Publicans went out of their way to provide every amusement and recreation 30 04 11

1944
Newmarket Road & district darts league starts at Corner House due to blackout [4.16]

1958 05 24
Castle and District Darts League involves about 30 teams and incorporates the majority of the darts experts so a high standard of play was witness at the Rex Ballroom when both the men's and women's finals were held. Arthur Fordham (Jubilee) beat B. Smith of the British Queen in the final while the ladies' singles champion was Mrs Asby (Brewers Arms) who overcame Mrs Dickson (Robin Hood). Twenty games were played after which the company of 500 enjoyed dancing for three hours to the music of the popular Ken Stevens band. 58 05 24

1963 02 16
Darts is still a popular sport which appeals to all classes. The Star Brewery League began 30 years ago and is a very lively concern with 300 registered competitors in its 20 clubs. George Woolley of 'The Hoops', Long Stanton is one of their leading performers but 'The Jubilee', 'Haymakers' and

‘Five Bells’ have all won the championship in recent years . Ely City Darts Organisation, which started around 1932, has nearly 800 on its register, including 90 women. 63 02 16a

fisherwoman, 1930's *159.85*

c.38.09 : Fishing

1905 08 05
Two undergraduates said they were fishing at Holywell when Baron de Ketschemdorf arrived in another punt and asked them to move. They declined, saying the river was public, at which the Baron said he would throw them in the river. There was a wrestle during which he tried to throttle them. The German said he had driven a pole in the bed of the river showing that he had already occupied that water and it was a point of etiquette not to fish there. The men had threatened to hit him with a bucket. He was fined £1. 05 08 05b – d

1906 10 04
An extraordinary sight, which ought never to occur again, is to be witnessed at Baitsbite Lock. For a hundred yards the surface of the water is literally covered with dead and dying fish – pike, roach, bream, dace and a host of smaller fry. Fishermen would never have dreamed there were as many fish in the waters. They have been slaughtered by the introduction of some noxious substance into the river. 06 10 04 & a

1907 08 20
There was unusual excitement among the juvenile fraternity and considerable bustle in arranging fishing rods and other paraphernalia. The occasion was unique, for there was to be a juvenile fishing competition. Nowadays children are admitted to pleasures and privileges hitherto enjoyed only by the adult portion of the community and this is the very latest form of amusement arranged for them by the Albion Angling Society 07 08 20

1918 07 07
Suggested Netting Of The Granta. —-it seemed hard to net a fresh water fishery where there were so many wounded soldiers. It was excellent sport for wounded soldiers to sit on the bank if the owners would only throw the river open to them 18 07 07 CIPof

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1930 01 10
Extensive netting was carried out in the ponds at Madingley Hall; over 8,000 fish, mostly roach and rudd, were transferred in tanks to Newnham Mill Pool. The party, which included Mr Ambrose Harding and Horace Coulson arrived equipped with nets and tanks which strongly resembled dust-bins. The first haul was made across the bridge end of the pond and resulted in the capture of about 400 small roach which were taken to Cambridge by lorry. The next produced upwards of 2,000 fish, too many for the lorry so Mr Coulson took some in pails in his car. The third pond yielded a still finer catch CDN 10.1.1930

1931 03 06
The Ouse and Cam Fishery Board want permits issued to people who catch eels as a livelihood, or to destroy them. John Barnes of Manea said men had fished for eels for centuries, it was part of their rights. He used the same implements as his great-grandfather before him; they were worth £50 and of no use for other purposes. Some years he caught £10 worth of eels, other years £80. The best time was when the flood water had almost receded that that was during the close season. He had a strong objection to getting a permit for something he'd done for years. It was the thin end of the wedge. 31 03 06b

1934 08 24
Some 750 young anglers assembled on Parker's Piece and were played to the station by the band of the Boys' Brigade to catch a special train to St Ives to take part in the Albion Angling Society's annual fishing match for youngsters. The miniature army of anglers disported themselves along the river bank at Hemingford meadows. It was not unusual to see gathered in one small space at least half a dozen children with lines and rods crossed and floats completely submerged. The winners of the President's cup for the best catch were F.Parr (boys) and Marjorie Benton (girls) 34 08 24

1935 08 22
With rods and a look that combined gladness and determination, a children's army a thousand strong gathered on Parker's Piece, intent on getting their fish. A free outing to St Ives, an afternoon's fishing, a tea, sports and prizes was arranged by the Albion Angling Society. Ice-cream men did a roaring trade and one enterprising draper sold a number of Panama hats before the quarter-mile long procession set off for the station headed by the band of the Boys' Brigade. The children's match was started about 30 years ago but stopped during the war and was not revived until 1928 or 1929. 35 08 22a

1938 02 11
When the lake at Madingley Hall was netted the result was not just a matter of kettles of fish but bins full. The ever-growing number of anglers makes such demands on the available fish that annual re-stocking is essential so the Ouse and Cam Fishery Board relies on a number of owners of private lakes who have given permission for some of their fish to be transferred to other waters. The lake at Longstowe Hall has also yielded a large number – once the haul was so heavy that the net broke. Anglers no longer regard fish as something to kill; at one time it was common to see fish left to die on the river bank. Now they are returned at the end of the day 38 02 11b

1956 07 20
Cambridge Albion Angling Society celebrated its 50th birthday with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. They owed much of their success to the work of the late Jack Cartwright, the 'Grand Old Man' of the Albion during the difficult years of two world wars. Since the war no sport had recruited the vast numbers that angling had done. They now had more than 1,500 members. 56 05 19

1956 07 20b
Samples of water taken from the River Ouse at Huntingdon after many fish were killed on the Newton stretch of the river contained traces of cyanide. It came from the normal effluent discharge from Huntingdon Council's septic tank at Hartford. No other sources of pollution were found and the only

chemical spraying was using a non-toxic weed killer. It was important that the district pollution prevention officer should be on the telephone, but the Post Office did not have the necessary equipment. 56 07 20b

1961
Cambridge & District Sea Angling Society set up [21.12]

1969 01 30
Challis & Sons fishing tackle shop in Newmarket Rd to close after 31 years, was formerly Hardings; made Pembroke and Trinity reels – feature – 69 01 30b

1981 07 15
It is likely to take more than 10 years to restock a polluted stretch of the River Cam in which hundreds of thousands of fish died. Anglers say that fishing in the city has now been entirely wiped out. Around four tons have been removed from the river near Bait's Bite lock but many are still floating. It is feared that as well as causing a smell, the rotting fish could cause further pollution. It is suspected that raw sewage was washed into the river during heavy rain. 81 07 15a

1985 06 14
Cambridge Fish Preservation & Angling Society centenary, founded as Jolly Anglers [21.11]

Cambridge United fans 1973 *201.15*

c.38.10 : football

1884
Cambs F.A. founded [14.1]

1895
University Football & Rugger ground laid out, Grange Rd [446.12.5]

1896
Parkers Piece protest re closure to footballers [NI.2.1]

1900

1902
Cambridge & District Thursday League formed [14.2]

1903 05 16
Mr Percy Humphreys, formerly a regular player for Cambridge St Mary's Football Club is now the possessor of an International cap. Cambridge has a way of showing appreciation of distinction attained in sport by complimentary dinners and it was only fitting that following those to cricketers Ranji and Tom Hayward a similar compliment should be paid to a townsman who has attained the highest honour in the other great national game. He was known as 'The Little Terror' and was the subject of hero worship by lads in Cambridge.c03 05 16

1903 06 26
Local sportsmen will be sorry to hear that the provisional committee of the proposed Cambridge Town Football Club have been unsuccessful in securing a ground for the coming season. The ground near the Cattle Market belonging to the Corporation was not available and negotiations were entered into for a ground at the corner of Milton Road. Mrs Gurney, the owner, has not been able to see her

way to allow its use as it is too close to her private garden. She offered a ground near Dant's Ferry but the preparation would cost about £100 for draining and was out of the question. 03 06 26

1909
Football: Cambridge schoolboy football starts with formation of Cambridge Schoolboys Athletic Association [4.14]

1910

191
Cambridge Town played rear Cattle Market before WWI [14.4]

1911 07 07
Cambridgeshire Amateur Football Association formed – 11 07 07a

1912
Cambridge United join Spartan league [7.7]

1913
Abbey United match in 1913 – predates United history – 87 11 10a

1913 01 24
It seems practically certain that Cambridge United will lose their popular captain, Jack Rowell, for he has gone into business on his own account which will necessitate him giving up playing on Saturdays. Visiting clubs should note that Jack has taken over at the Hopbine in Fair Street where he will be able to accommodate them when playing in Cambridge. It is a great thing for teams to have somewhere to go where they will be well looked after and he understands their requirements. Jack is about to assume other responsibilities, for in a very short time he will have taken unto himself a wife.13 01 24 p3 CIP

1913 07 04
An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1914 05 22
Football Amalgamation - Cambridge Town and Cambridge United Football Clubs, agreed the clubs should amalgamate. If they were to succeed in the bigger competitions they were going in for next season they must play better football, and to that end they must get the best men possible. This was what they could do through amalgamation.14 05 22 CIPof [8.1]

1920

1920
Camden Football club formed [14.5]

1920 11 20
Cambridge Town Football Club appeal for 1,800 sportsmen to lend the club £1 each to enable them to purchase a ground of their own - CDN 20 11 20

1921 10 12
Cambridge Town Football club new ground Milton Road – photo across site – 21 10 12a

1922 04 29
The new ground of the Cambridge Town Football Club, situate to the north of the junction of Milton-road and Victoria-road was formally opened by the Mayor of Cambridge on Saturday, after which the Town played their Southern Amateur League return fixture with Merton, and started their record n the new ground with a satisfactory victory by three goals to none. The Mayor said that just after the war he was approached to act as trustee of a fund for purchasing a ground for the Town F.C. Without a suitable ground it was impossible to carry on for any length of time. He hoped the club would be successful, because it owed the bank something like £1,100 - but he was told a man thinking of big things was not a successful man of business unless he owed a considerable sum to the bank 22 04 29 [2.19,7.23]

1929 07
Cambridge Town football club announce assets of £5,000 compared to poverty of a few years ago [4.8]

1929 12 14
F.A. Ridgeon, the Cambridge Town Football Club's inside left, travelled by aeroplane to Sussex for the F.A. Amateur Cup tie with Southwick. There was some doubt whether he could make the match owning to duties in Stamford preventing him from travelling by train. Hearing of his difficulty Mr D.G. Marshall of Aviation Hall generously placed his Moth aeroplane at his disposal. His son, Arthur Marshall, would have piloted the machine but he had gone on an air trip to Austria so a de Haviland pilot was engaged for the journey. This is, we believe, the first time an amateur footballer has travelled to a match by air. Cambridge won 2-0. CDN 14.12.1929

1930

1930 04 25
Sensational scenes were witnessed when Cambridge Town met Ipswich in a vital football match at Milton Road. The crowd, numbering over 7,300, were annoyed by some disputable rulings by the referee. At the final whistle they surged on to the field and surrounded him. The situation looked very ugly when Cambridge players and police with drawn truncheons went to his assistance. They got him to the pavilion but the crowd tried to storm the building. When the Chairman, W.R. Paige, tried to gain order with the aid of a megaphone he was shouted down. But for the quick work of many police, both uniformed and plain clothes, players and officials, the referee might have been very roughly handled. 30 04 25

1930 12 01
Milton Road heroes – football cartoon – 30 12 01a

1931 06 21
The complete reconstruction of the Cambridge Town Football Club is underway and when supporters pay their money at the gate next season they will be confronted with an entirely new sight. The old stand has been demolished and the network of frames for the new one seating 800 people erected together with a new pavilion. There will also be a full-sized Cumberland turf green for the Chesterton Bowling Club. 31 06 12l

1931 09 04
Cambridge Town Football Club's £4,000 stand was officially opened by the Mayor as Milton Road took on again its usual Saturday afternoon activity. In the centre of the pitch the Railway Band played crowds into the new stand and the lily badges of the Town Supporters' Club were well to the fore. The new dressing rooms were not in use and players used the old pavilion. Cambridge won 4-3 31 09 04f

1932 09 02

Abbey United started their football campaign in fine style. Not only did they play their first match on their new ground but they won it. The ground is situated close to the former pitch at Newmarket Road and has been levelled and fenced-in. All this was possible through the generosity of the club president, Mr H.C. Francis and it was officially declared open by Mr R.J. Wadsworth 32 09 02b [1.8]

1940

1940 06 14
Mr. Henry Clement Francis, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, who died on February 13th last, left Freehold land in the parish of Fen Ditton, now used by the Abbey United Football Club, to the Vicar of Fen Ditton and the Mayor of Cambridge, in trust to be used for football and for grazing and dancing, and if no longer required for those purposes, to sell the ground, and one half of the proceeds to be given to the Cambridge and District Nurses and one half to the Abbey Church. 40 06 14 CIPof

1940 08 09
Suspended for Duration. The Cambs. F.A. decided to suspend all competitions promoted by the Association for the duration of the war, with the exception of the Minor League. It was considered that as Minor League clubs only included players under 18 years of age, the competition would be well supported. The officers and council were re-elected to carry on for the duration of the war. 40 08 09 CIPof

1944 06 16
The scheme to open a sports ground at the Cambridge Town Football Club's ground evoked considerable debate and criticism. After the debate the council agreed to a resolution that the Entertainments Committee be asked to continue their efforts relating to a sports ground, with wide facilities, for Cambridge. By a large majority the committee were given power to continue negotiations with the Football Club "on a peaceful basis" 44 06 16 CIPof

1946 12 04
'Foot-the-ball' match as part of best rag for years – 46 12 04, 04a

1948 03 24
The newly-formed Abbey United F.C. Supporters' Club launched out into the social sphere and their first dance arranged at the Guildhall was gratifyingly successful and the happy relationship between Abbey and the Cambridge Town F.C. was in evidence by the presence of representatives of the latter. Approximately 300 dancers enjoyed themselves to the music of Len Tibb's band. The Ladies Section of the Supporters' Club was responsible for the catering and the committee intend that this effort shall be the first of a series of social functions designed to put Abbey United F.C. "on the map 48 03 24

1950

1951
Abbey United change name to Cambridge United [14.8]

1952 05 02
Three seasons ago Cambridge United (then Abbey United) Supporters' Club embarked on an ambitious scheme – the building of a £3,000 pavilion and clubroom with office accommodation. At first the loyal band of supporters was beset by building material difficulties and then hampered by the weather. There were scenes of great enthusiasm when the building was handed over to the football club management. It is just 40 years since the club was formed as Abbey United as the outcome of the desire to play football by a Sunday School class. "Our set-up is now really wonderful and there is no reason why the club should not go on from success to success", said Harry Habbin, chairman of the Supporters Club. CDN 52 05 02

1952 11 07
Cambridge council objected to the proposed development of land at Stourbridge Common as a professional football ground. The land was acquired for tipping purposes and they wished it to be zoned for storing Civil Defence materials or for use as a lorry park. The Chief Constable said that, assuming the aim was to bring Third Division football to Cambridge with possible crowds of 15,000 people, it would not present much difficulty in dispersing them from Newmarket Road after a match. The City council proposed a municipal sports ground at Trumpington Road. The class of football envisaged would attract gates of not more than 1,000 and would not be in the same class as Cambridge City or United football clubs. 52 11 07

1953 07 24
Cambridge City Football Supporters Club members gathered to witness the opening of their new headquarters. The Supporters Club was founded 25 years ago and several of the original members were present, including R.J. Wadsworth, the first President. The new building is constructed of brick and wood and decorated in blue and white, with check curtains to match. It has a bar, committee room and other amenities together with a canteen. In the main room hang photographs recalling the early days of the club. Players' wives and young ladies are welcome. 53 07 24

1953 12 09
Football: new stand built, Cambridge City football club [5.6]

1954 07 09
Real American softball came to Cambridge Football Club ground when the US Air Force Hospital Wimpole Park beat a team from USAF Molesworth entirely against the formbook. But for British spectators the game was a succession of shocks. They saw an umpire hustled and pushed by players disputing a decision, two players somersaulting as they tried to catch a ball and some magnificent hits and catches that made it look like cricket. The game seems to be a glorified rounders akin to baseball. There was 'strike one', 'ball one', 'blunt' and a host of other expressions which are difficult to explain but easy to follow on the diamond-shaped field until the victorious team had notched up their win and were cheered again and again CDN 9.7.54

1955 12 17
Stanley Matthews, the greatest soccer player of the century made his first visit to Cambridge. Local football officials and celebrities laid aside the rivalries of the field for the opportunity to shake his hand. At the end a schoolboy collared him for his autograph; Stanley said: "When I was your age I was always in bed by eight o'clock". He then left for his hotel and bed – dead on 9.30 pm 55 12 17c

1957 08 19
'Footballer of the Year', Tom Finney, has been signed to write for the popular 'Cambridge Daily News Football and Sports Review' each Saturday evening. He has been capped 67 times since 1946 and is one of the most versatile forwards of the post-war period. Tom was offered a huge sum to sign for an Italian team but declined, saying he was happy to remain with Preston North End for whom he scored 22 goals last season. He knows the game inside out and will present a lively commentary on the soccer scene each week. Do not miss them. 57 08 19

1958 02 06
Elfleda Road residents complained that when they bought their houses Cambridge United was a little football team with about 200 spectators playing on an open ground with no banking. Now the ground had been built up with floodlight pylons and there were 3,000 at matches. There was the noise from the loudspeaker equipment, the shouting and even beastly cigarette smoke. The Supporters Club was a nuisance – 'having finished their evening, these boisterous individuals, fortified by their beer, make their way down the unmade road to the Council estate', one resident said. 58 02 06

1958 04 19
Cambridge United turning pro – cartoon – 58 04 19a

1958 05 10
Cambridge United's development – enters Southern League – 58 05 10

1958 08 25
City & United Football clubs elected to new Southern League [6.7,6.9]

1959 01 02
Cambridgeshire Football Association was launched on 24th January 1884 at a meeting in the Guildhall. A trial game was organised between two teams selected from Old Perseans, Modern Perseans and Cassandra on one side and the Granta, Rovers, Printers and Albert on the other. Newmarket, Linton, Sawston Swifts and Cam affiliated at the outset. In those days the game was controlled by two umpires, one in each half of the field. Should they disagree the matter was referred to a referee who sat outside the field of play. 59 01 02 &a 59 01 06a

1959 02 26
The memory of the night the lights that were turned on at Milton Road football ground will live for a long time judging by the way the inaugural match between Cambridge City and West Ham United was received by the 11,000 crowd. Even though the First Division club beat their hosts to the tune of five goals to two, they endeared themselves to all the spectators by the manner in which they did it. They even had the courtesy to allow the City to be the first to score under the new floodlights – although perhaps it wasn't intended! Barry Kin drove the ball hard from the wing and it matter not that the West Ham goalkeeper helped the ball into the net. 59 02 26b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 04 09
Alan Ford trainee goalkeeper Cambridge City Football club 60 04 09b

1960 09 13
Football supporters fight in hospital – cartoon – 60 09 13

1962 02 06
Proposal to amalgamate City & United Football clubs (rejected 1965) [6.15.14.3]

1964 06 17
Footballers' summer jobs – 64 06 17b (see Memories 20 Jun 2014)

1965 02 25
Cambridge United and Cambridge City merger proposed – 65 02 25a; United not interested – 65 03 03

1965 05 29
Cambridge United application join Football League rejected – 65 05 29

1966 10 28
Cambridge United manager, Roy Kirk, resigns; also dismiss trainer-coach Brian Doyle – 66 10 28

1966 12 31
Coldham's Common dark and dingy hut is changing room for footballers – 66 12 31

1967 04 27
Cambridge City and Cambridge United directors consider merger of clubs; one condition the selling of the Milton Road ground- 67 04 27

1967 12 07
George Dean resigns as Secretary Cambs Football Association; played for Cambridge City – profile – 67 12 07b

1969 05 05
Cambridge United win Southern League championship – 69 05 05a,b

1970

1970 05 30
Cambridge United win Southern League Cup, elected to 4th Division Football League – 70 05 30, b 70 06 14b

1971 02 11
Cambridge United battle to take over Whitehill allotment land for use as car park – 71 02 11

1971 06 16
Cambridge United Supports' Club open new bar and lounge – 71 06 16, 71 06 18

1972 09 29
United "to stamp on hooliganism" [14.9]

1973 05 02
Exultant Cambridge United players shared the glory with the fans after Saturday's epic 3-2 win against Mansfield - the win which takes them into the Third Division. The Untied players, directors, officials and their wives will be guests at a civic reception at the Guildhall. It has never been done before and will probably never be done again. That was Cambridge United's chairman Geoffrey Proctor's view of the clubs starling 22-year rise to the Third Division since turning professional. "It all started in 1950-51 when we turned professional in the United Counties League and now we are in the Third Division. Naturally we want to go up to the Second Division and even First Division football. Meanwhile manager Bill Lievers, the author of so much emotion the day before, spent yesterday morning helping groundsman Alec James take down the Abbey Stadium goalposts in readiness for full-scale work on levelling the pitch at the Newmarket Road end 73 05 03 [14.10]

1973 11 19
United soccer fans go wild, 2nd week, 13 arrested [14.11]

1974 04
Cambridge City taken over by new company who clear their debts [14.13]

1974 09 11
Cambridge City Football Club have submitted plans for a £500,000 night club at their Milton road ground. It is planned that the 1,000-seater cabaret theatre will be built at the Milton Road end of the ground on a site that present houses the supporters' club. "Modern football is in the doldrums and will never pay for itself again", said the chairman. If the club get the go-ahead they intend to engage international stars and provide first-class food and drink 74 09 11

1974 11 22
United sack Lievers, Ron Atkinson appointed [14.14] [2.5]

1975 03 17
Newcastle fans on rampage, March [14.16]

1975 11 10
Afternoon of violence, three-hour clash with police [14.17]

1975 06 17
Cambridge United have taken the first major step towards a merger with their Southern League neighbours, Cambridge City. United's chairman David Ruston said "It was decided that the best way to approach amalgamation was for us to make a proposition that if city agreed, we would in due course make an offer for their shares. Both sides are agreed that something like this is in the best interests of football in the city". Jack Ginn, City's former chairman said, "Nothing can save football in Cambridge other than amalgamation. I understand City have lost £15,000 in the past year and United more than £30,000. This cannot go on" 75 06 17

1976 03 31
City trading at loss again [14.18]

1976 04 01
Season of drift away from football - 500 people fewer per United match [14.19]

1976 08 18
"Soccer hooligans run wild" [14.20]

1976 08 23
The landlord of a public house in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, issued a blunt warning to customers: "Watch out, there's football fans about". This is an area which has taken the brunt of local soccer hooliganism and violence. Walk along the Road on a Saturday afternoon when United are at home and you will sense an underlying tension as supporters trek to and from the Abbey Stadium. When the final whistle blows the United supporters and the respectable part of the crowd are allowed to leave. Nearly half an hour later the visitors are permitted to make their exit under escort 76 08 23

1976 09 18
"Hooligans run riot in night of terror" [14.21]

1976 11 15
United champions Division Four [14.22,15,1]

1977 03 09
Cambridge City Football Club's move to quit the Southern League for the Isthmian League third division brought a blazing Milton Road mutiny last night. City chairman Laurie Boost was presented with a petition of 221 names calling for the directors to reverse their decision – or resign. Manager Roy Johnson announced he would quit at the end of the season, club secretary John Aves, groundsman and trainer Bill Brignell and even ball-boys Paul Craft and Philip Butler said they would follow suit if the directors stick to their decision. The players also repeated their view that none of them would drop into the Isthmian League with City. 77 03 09

1977 05 02
Corks bounced off the ceiling – and Steve Spriggs' head – and the champagne flowed long after Cambridge United's dramatic 3-2 victory over brave Brentford. They were celebrating promotion to Division Three. It will be one of the major shocks of football history if Ron Atkinson's team do not coast home to the Fourth Division title, sitting four points clear at the top of the table. They would have to lose their four remaining matches by at least three goals while the four teams below them would have to win all of theirs. It is all safely tucked away in the realms of fantasy, says Randall Butt 77 05 02

1977 11 02
United to cage in their fans [15.2]

1978 01 18
Cambridge United have appointed club coach John Docherty team manager and made assistant manager Paddy Sowden general manager in a move to fill the gap left by the former manager Ron Atkinson's move to West Bromwich Albion. Docherty was appointed by Atkinson after quitting as Brentford manager in a clash with the London club's chairman early last season. He joined in a part-time capacity but was given a full-time one-year contract in recognition of his contribution to United's successful playing style. A former Brentford, Notts County, Reading and Queen's Park Rangers forward, Docherty turned down the chance to join First Division Leicester as youth coach earlier this season. 78 01 18 [15.3-4]

1978 04 01
Cambridge United, planning for Second Division football next season, want part of Coldham's Common for new £100,000 expansion plans. These include a skateboard park running nearly the length of the Habbin stand, extra car parking and a 2,500-seater stand over terracing on that side of the ground. Facilities at the Abbey Stadium have already been stretched to breaking point in the Third Division, most notably when Peterborough played a local derby in front of 10,998 people in January. 78 04 01 [15.6]

1978 04 18
It would cost nearly £300,000 for Cambridge United to move to the Cambridge City club's ground in Milton Road – and the facilities would be no better than those at the Abbey Stadium. The suggestion had been made repeatedly over the years by supporters of both clubs and has come to a head again with United's plans for expansion and a skateboard park. Directors know their plans to take over common land would be an emotive issue, but it is a waste area and they would pipe a stream which is usually nothing more than a foul ditch. 78 04 18

1978 07 01
"Thin blue line halted rampaging city mob" [15.7]

1978 10 27
"In terms of quantity & quality Cambridge United have worst fans in the land" [15.8]

1979 03 12
"Support is disgraceful", 27 arrests in violence [15.9-11]

1979 11 20
United make £100,000 profit [15.10]

1980

1980 03 28
Cambridge United's dramatic transformation from Fourth Division minnows to a respected Second Division club has brought them to heights undreamed of just a couple of years ago. But the shock resignation of two directors raises nagging doubts. They fear the club might be in danger of over-reaching itself financially. There have been examples of clubs sinking back to the lower reaches of the Football League with players' contracts acting like millstones around their necks. However if they had not taken risks they would not probably have been in the Football League today. 80 03 28b

1980 05 21
United at bottom attendance league [15.12]

1980 09 02
The first football excursion train to leave Cambridge station in almost three years set off for Wolverhampton packed with United fans hoping to cheer John Docherty's men to a place in the third round of the League Cup. The train was one of the first to use the no-alcohol regulation which British

Rail hopes will reduce the incidence of vandalism. There was no problem. No matter who they were – schoolboys, skinheads, middle-aged mothers and fathers – no-one tried any surreptitious supping. 80 09 03a

1980 09 16
Cambridge United is poised to become the first club in Football League history to play a competitive match behind closed doors. The move to curb soccer hooliganism at the Abbey Stadium would involve next season's visit by Chelsea and its notorious fans – should the two teams still be in the Second Division. The move follows troubles at Saturday's match when Chelsea fans urinated in public causing some local supporters to leave in disgust. 80 09 16

1980 12 31
This has been a good year for Cambridge United who played Aston Villa, probably the most famous cup side in England, in the FA Cup. There was a mad scramble to tickets; 12,000 lucky fans were treated to a cup thriller and most were happy with a 1-1 draw though United were trimmed 4-1 in the replay. Then they met Wolves in the Football League Cup, beating them over two legs in a performance that brought praise from England manager Ron Greenwood. They went on to beat Aston Villa but then lost to Coventry. 80 12 31a

1981 02 05
Cambridge City Football Club has crippling debts of about £65,000; this financial millstone is a legacy from earlier days when the club had been run without any administrative ability at all. A club, once the pride of Cambridge until United was elected to the Football League in 1969, has now sunk into a virtual backwater. They have gone 40 games without a win and attract about 200 spectators. But they have a ground with a capacity of 17,000 that is the envy of most non-league clubs. 81 02 05b & c

1981 05 13
1980-81 was best season in United's history [15.13]

1981 05 26
United make £40,000 loss (last year profit £171,000) due transfer dealings [15.14]

1981 10 05
Football hooligans left a trail of destruction after Cambridge United's match against Chelsea. Mobs of youths rampaged through streets hurling bricks, stones and other missiles at police. Windows were smashed in about 30 homes which line the route to the railway station. Now the city council will be urged to provide buses to take supporters to and from the match. 81 10 05a

1982 01 20
People "willing to defend houses with pitchforks" [15.17]

1983 05 10
United plan £6M sports complex [11.9]

1983 10
Cambridge United record £129,000 loss [15.18]

1983 02 18
United in fifth round FA Cup [15.19]

1983 08 11
Cambridge United has signed the biggest sponsorship deal in their history with brewery company Ind Coope Benskins. They will be backing the second-division club with a three-year package worth more than £30,000. The Club has also retained a £5,000 per year backing of Norwich Breweries, which

holds the franchise for the supports club, and fixed up a new kit sponsorship worth several thousand pounds with Yorkshire sportswear company, Mileta 83 08 11 p1

1983 08 17
George Reilly, Cambridge United's £140,000 record signing, has been sold to First Division Watford for 100,000. The fee is £40,000 less than United paid Northampton for him four years ago, but that reflects the state of the transfer market. The giant Scottish centre forward, who was the club's top scorer last year, has not been at the Abbey since he had pay talks with Manager John Docherty. He had a year of his contract to run and a review of his pay was due in summer 83 08 17 p1 & 83 08 24

1984 01 20
Cambs FA centenary [15.20]

1984 01 20
Cambridge United have appointed former Norwich City and Luton player, John Ryan, as their new manager. He takes over immediately at the struggling Second Division club. John Cozens, caretaker manager since the sacking of John Docherty will remain for the time being. Ryan takes over a United team who are 10 points adrift at the bottom of the Second Division and looking doomed to relegation after going 20 games without a win 84 01 20 p1

1984 02 01
Planning permission has been given for a £10 million redevelopment scheme for Cambridge City Football Club's ground at Milton Road. The present pitch, greyhound track and stands will be demolished and be replaced by a three-storey block of research and development buildings with an underground car park. The development will guarantee the future of the club 84 02 01 p1

1984 02 13
A police operation on a military scale was necessary to deal with the threat to Cambridge posed by Saturday's match against Chelsea who have some of Britain's most notorious football fans. But most of the trouble came from Cambridge supporters. In a rampage of violence a man's throat was slashed, another was stabbed, two policemen were attacked and 92 people were arrested. Police held at bay a mob of fans who tried to stop them arresting a streaker on the United pitch. Parts of the city were left vulnerable to crime because of police commitments to the match 84 02 13 p11

1984 03 12
United relegated from Division Two [16.3]

1984 05 22
One of the landmarks of Cambridge's skyline has gone. Cambridge City football club's floodlights were pulled down as demolition men clear the ground in preparation for the construction of a science park. West Ham played at Milton Road to mark the erection of the lights when City entered the Southern League in 1958. Work has also started on pulling down the two stands as the club moves its ground to an area at the far end. 84 05 22 p34

1984 10 26
The symbol of Cambridge City Football Club's rebuilding programme has risen from the ground at Milton Road. The new pitch is down, the lights are up but there won't be soccer action there until the turn of the year. Then there will be the prospect of real comfort for the 400 or so who will be able to watch from the new stand. In addition to changing and other rooms there will be a social club and café and even a glass-fronted viewing room for directors and guests 84 10 26 p44

1984 12 13
Cambridge United have sacked manager John Docherty, ending his reign at the John Ryan appointed Abbey Stadium as the longest-serving soccer boss in the Second Division. His dismissal comes after 10 weeks in which United have not won a match and have slumped deep into the relegation zone. He

came to Cambridge as part-time coach in September 1976 and steered them though the Third Division campaign of 1977-78 after Ron Atkinson left. But unlike his extrovert predecessor his low key style failed to capture the imagination of fans who have been clamouring for his dismissal for at least 18 months 83 12 13 p1 [15.21-22]

1985 01 05
Controversy surrounded the result of the first game of foot-the-ball played since 1946: it was either a 13-all draw or 13-14 to the Ditton Players. More than 400 people turned up on Parker's Piece to watch the contest between the Players, in Edwardian dress and the Ditton Irregulars. Amongst them was the son of the game's inventor, the late Prof Bill Howell who organised the first match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The match is played like football except that it has three balls and 15 players to a side 85 01 05

1985 01 05
American football: Cambridge County Cats formed [11.10]

1985 02 26
Cambridge United Manager John Ryan was sacked last night by David Ruston, the club chairman who himself reportedly resigned earlier in the day. His 403-day reign has seen United win only seven out of 50 matches. Hopes had been high when he was appointed as the natural successor to the former boss Ron Atkinson. He balanced the books and cut the wage bill. But a patchwork team of youngsters aided by a few old heads continued to slide to the bottom of the Third Division, disillusionment set in on the terraces and the drift away sabotaged the gate figures leaving the Directors little choice 85 02 26 & a

1985 10 02
United bottom Division Four [16.6]

1985 12 21
Chris Turner appointed United manager [16.9]

1986 02 28
Cambridge city council loan United £40,000 : relegation Div.2-3 cost £78,000 in gate receipts [16.7-8]

1986 10 30
Cambridge United got their reward for beating Ipswich with a draw against First Division giants, Tottenham Hotspur in the Littlewoods Cup. The Spurs team includes England internationals Glenn Hoddle and Chris Waddle, Belgian superstar Nico Claesen and Argentinean World Cup star Osvaldo Ardiles. The dream fixture will pack the Abbey Stadium with more than 10,000 fans. Ticket prices will be raised to £8 for seats and £5 for the terraces. 86 10 30 & 30a

1987 02 06
Cambridge United has turned the corner financially under the leadership of manager Chris Turner. Last season's Fourth Division failure left the club with a massive debt of £122,000. But the six months to last November showed a profit of around £40,000, putting them on their way to the best financial figures since their Second Division heyday seven years ago. After having to apply for re-election to the League they reached the Fourth Round of the Littlewoods Cup, earning a money-spinning match against Tottenham Hotspur and their gates are up by an average of 1,000 per game. As well as the club lottery the Lotto and Lifeline has also made a big contribution 87 02 06

1987 02 27
Cambridge United are aiming to build a major office complex at the Abbey Stadium in a bid to win their battle for soccer survival. The idea is to provide office space over the car park adjoining Newmarket Road which would produce £30,000 a year. Other options are to seek help from the city

council or consider part-time football. Chairman David Ruston told shareholders that he might quit unless the club's cash position improves. 87 02 27

1988 06 24
Sainsbury's hopes to buy Cambridge United's famous Abbey Stadium for a DIY superstore and give the club a new ground, perhaps at the former Blue Circle cement works site off Coldham's Lane. The Abbey site covers four acres and United have already put forward plans to develop the car park for offices. Trafford Park Estates have won permission to build four office blocks on the front of the Cambridge City ground, three of which are already half-let. 88 06 24

1988 08 25
Joint city/United stadium planned ¢CEN 25.8.88

1989 02 15
Cambridge United income drops 40% ¢CEN 15.2.89

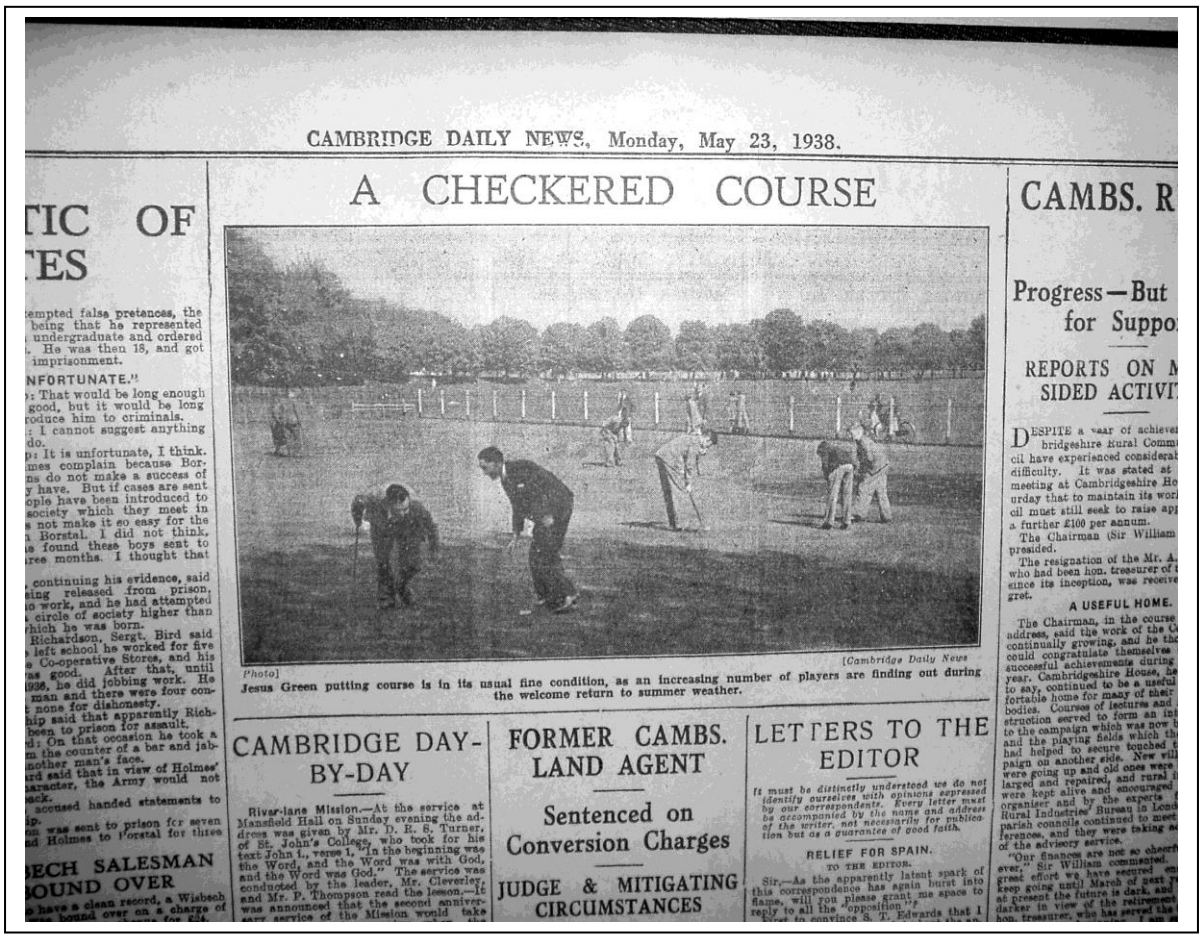
1990 02 10
Secret talks are under way for Cambridge United to move to a site on farmland at Teversham. The news comes only a day after it was revealed the club lost £98,000 last year and Chris Turner was sacked as general manager. If the club moves from the ground it has occupied since the 1920s it would allow the sale of the Abbey Stadium site for housing or commercial development. This would realise enough cash for the new venture 90 02 10a Fans views – 90 02 15c

1990 05 28
Cambridge United promoted to Third Division following Wembley win – 90 05 28a, c

1990 06 05
Cambridge United celebrate winning place in Third Division, open-top bus in Market Hill – 90 06 05, b

1990 09 11+

Cambridge football clubs could have new home at Chesterton sidings – plan – 90 09 11



CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Monday, May 23, 1938.

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TES

tempted false pretences, the being that he represented undergraduate and ordered . He was then 18, and got imprisonment.

NFORTUNATE."

: That would be long enough good, but it would be long roduce him to criminals. : I cannot suggest anything do.

p: It is unfortunate, I think. mes complain because Bor- ns do not make a success of y have. But if cases are sent ople have been introduced to society which they meet in s not make it so easy for the Borstal. I did not think, e found these boys sent to ree months. I thought that

continuing his evidence, said sing released from prison, o work, and he had attempted circle of society higher than hich he was born.

Richardson, Sergt. Bird said left school he worked for five e Co-operative Stores, and his as good. After that, until 938, he did jobbing work. He man and there were four con- t none for dishonesty.

hip said that apparently Rich- been to prison for assault. d: On that occasion he took a m the counter of a bar and jab- nother man's face.

rd said that in view of Holmes' aracter, the Army would not ack.

accused handed statements to

ip.

was sent to prison for seven d Holmes to Borstal for three

ECH SALESMAN OUND OVER

have a clean record, a Wisbech bound over on a charge of

A CHECKERED COURSE

[Photo] [Cambridge Daily News

Jesus Green putting course is in its usual fine condition, as an increasing number of players are finding out during the welcome return to summer weather.

CAMBRIDGE DAY-BY-DAY

River-lane Mission.—At the service at Mansfield Hall on Sunday evening the address was given by Mr. D. R. S. Turner, of St. John's College, who took for his text John i., verse 1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The service was conducted by the leader, Mr. Cleverley, and Mr. P. Thompson read the lesson.—It was announced that the second anniversary service of the Mission would take

FORMER CAMBS. LAND AGENT

Sentenced on Conversion Charges

JUDGE & MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It must be distinctly understood we do not identify ourselves with opinions expressed by our correspondents. Every letter must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

RELIEF FOR SPAIN.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—As the apparently latent spark of this correspondence has again burst into flame, will you please grant me space to reply to all the "opposition,"

CAMBS. R

Progress—But for Suppo

REPORTS ON M SIDED ACTIVI

DESPITE a year of achieve bridgeshire Rural Comm cil have experienced considera difficulty. It was stated at meeting at Cambridgeshire Ho urday that to maintain its wor cil must still seek to raise ap a further £100 per annum.

The Chairman (Sir William presided.

The resignation of the Mr. A. who had been hon. treasurer of since its inception, was receiv gret.

A USEFUL HOME.

The Chairman, in the course address, said the work of the C continually growing, and he th could congratulate themselves successful achievements during year. Cambridgeshire House, be to say, continued to be a useful fortable home for many of their bodies. Courses of lectures and struction served to form an in to the campaign which was now and the playing fields which th had helped to secure touched paign on another side. New vill were going up and old ones were larged and repaired, and rural were kept alive and encouraged organiser and by the experts Rural Industries' Bureau in Lond parish councils continued to meet ferences, and they were taking of the advisory service.

"Our finances are not so cheer ever," Sir William commented. gress effort we have secured en keep going until March of next y at present the future is dark, and darker in view of the retirement hon. treasurer, who has served tha

Putting on Jesus Green, May 1938 180.88

c.38.11 : Golf

Golf on Coldham's Common historical article – 61 02 17

1875
Cambridge Golf club began to play 9-hole course, Coldham's Common, about 2 years later name changed Cambridge University Golf Club; 1887 altered to 18 holes [16.10]

1895
Grays golf links open Grantchester Meadows [16.10]

1899 01 27
The subjugation of England to golf proceeds at a rapid race. Cambridge has already done homage to the Scottish game, and announcements made this week on behalf of Caius College shows that the popularity is still on the increase. Caius propose to devote about 250 acres of land on the Gog Magog hills to the formation of a golf links. A suggested course of 18 holes has already been staked out by Duncan, the professional - 1899 01 27

1901
Gog Magog Golf club formed (75th anniversary 1976) [16.11]

1901 05 25
Dr George Cunningham invents Lon-Golf (lawn golf) ¢Cambridge Graphic 25.5.1901

1907 07 27

Sir – Sunday is being desecrated with often a score of persons playing golf on the Gog Magog course during church hours. Even females are now to be seen there amongst the Sabbath-breakers. Not content with golf, on Sunday evening a target was stuck up and rifle practice was being carried on. Under the terms on which the links are held no golfing is to be allowed on Sunday and the gates must be kept locked. – 'Observer' 07 07 27

1910 10 28
Three labourers were charged with stealing nine golf balls and an overcoat from Charles Willmott, a groundsman at the University Golf Links at Coton. The men went to the fields adjoining the course and picked up golf balls knocked some distance by players which they sold to an athletic outfitter of Downing Street. Willmott said he had left his overcoat in a shed on the links and it had gone missing. Later he found it in a ditch. Nine golf balls that had been in the pocket had gone. He went to the shop and identified them because of peculiar marks, one of them was quite unique. If men could not sell the balls they would not trouble to pick them up. 10 10 28

1911 05 05
An undergraduate from Trinity College was fined for playing golf on Jesus Green to the danger of passers-by. The lad said there was no notice and he had seen people playing there for the last two years. There could be a danger if anyone had been on the Green, but there was nobody there when he was playing. The constable had seen him with his club and could have stopped him but allowed him to play before asking for his name, college and year saying third year men generally got more heavily fined than Freshmen. But the Chief Constable said that Freshmen were often let off with a caution 11 05 05

1912 09 14
'Why no municipal golf course, only links club is so exclusive as to be inaccessible to town & county residents' [7.5]

1926 08 18
A Duxford aeroplane crashed on the Gog Magog golf course, killing the pilot. The fatality occurred on the first tee, the machine first hitting the road and crashing through the hedge; as it struck the ground it burst into flames and was soon reduced to ruins. Bullets were flying around all over the place. Sometime after the accident the pilot's tunic was found with a fountain pen and letter, both only slightly damaged. His hat was found intact and inside this was his name. We understand he had recently inherited a large sum of money 26 08 18

1927 01 06
Sir – I am surprised to find the facilities for the Cambridge business man to play golf are so small. They can never get a round as the courses are so far from the town that they cannot get there. It is not everybody who can afford a car or motor cycle. They would welcome a municipal or public golf course near Cambridge and I am sure if the Town Council could entertain the idea of establishing a course it would be a paying concern – Robin 27 01 06

1927 07 23
Putting green starts, Jesus Green [5.24]

1928 04 14
I enjoyed a couple of rounds on the Cambridge putting green on Jesus Green and found quite a lot of patrons there. There are some folk who think that putting is only a temporary craze and will not enjoy continuing prosperity in the same way that tennis and bowls do, but a single tennis court takes ten years to pay for itself while the first putting green paid for itself within the first year. The committee has received a petition for a similar putting green on the Lammas Land, but they are a little timid about having a second one prepared until they see whether the success achieved last year is repeated. The rockery being constructed at the entrance to Lammas Land is being made from pieces of old and disused cattle troughs from Midsummer Common 28 04 14c

1930 10 11
Cambridge is a wonderful place in these days, what with new cinemas, new restaurants and new shops, not to mention the midget golf centres. Another is being laid out at Belle Vue Gardens. It is an 18-hole course with fairways averaging 30 feet in length made of tarmac with a green fibre surface. In some holes it will be necessary to send the ball over a five-barred gate, through the muzzle of a gun and down a nine-feet 'snake' curled round a tree trunk. 30 10 11a

1930 10 16
Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1933 01 07
Sir – Coldham's Common could be turned into a municipal nine-hole golf course now it is no longer required for shooting. The Corporation have £700 from the War Office in compensation for not putting the Common in the state it was before the rifle range was constructed. The various firing points and the lower portion of the butts could be used in the construction of a very sporting course, providing work for the unemployed. It would be no new thing to have golf played on the Common as the first University course was there – RG 33 01 07d

1951 11 01
The golden jubilee of the Gog Magog Golf Club was celebrated with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. Guest of honour was Mr Bernard Darwin, the famous authority on the game who was an early member of the club when an undergraduate at Trinity College. Recalling his early golfing days he mentioned some of the local courses, including one on Coldham's Common, one at Coton and another "somewhere near the Grange Road". The Gogs club was founded for the recreation of the senior members of the University and the first rules provided that the number of undergraduates permitted to play should not interfere with the convenience and enjoyment of the senior members of the University 51 11 01

1961 02 17
Golf on Coldham's Common historical article – 61 02 17

1971 06 25
Gog Magog Golf club new nine-hole relief course ready [16.11]

1980 02 23
Girton Golf club eight-year development ends - extended 18 hole course, clubhouse [16.12]

1986 11 26
Girton Golf Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. It has come a long way since the days when a special rule had to be introduced to cope with the sheep grazing on the greens. It was founded in 1936 by Scottish professional Allan Gow as a privately run organisation. Membership was three guineas for gentlemen and a round of the nine-hole course cost one shilling and sixpence. The course flooded several times a year and members squelched across water-logged fairways for most of the winter. In summer they had to negotiate huge cracks when the ground dried out. 86 11 26c

Coursing meeting, c1900 *185.83*

c.38.12 : Greyhound racing

1902 01 28
A rabbit coursing and whippet race meeting was held in a field near the Milton Road, Cambridge and some good sport was witnessed. There was a smaller programme than on some former occasions. A good entry was received and some fine dogs were in the field. A proposal has been made to organise a coursing society for Cambridge and the idea is receiving considerable support. CDN 1902 01 28

1921 08 31
Whippet racing revived; first meeting after war – 21 08 31a

1922 04 20
The Whippet meeting arranged by the Cambridge Whippet Racing Club was held in the club's straight running ground, Arbury Road, Cambridge, when a good crowd of spectators witnessed some very decent running. The weather conditions were far from ideal for dog racing, and undoubtedly were responsible for some indifferent running 22 04 20

1928 06
Greyhound racing track prepared off Cherry Hinton Road & Cambridgeshire Greyhound Racing club formed, churches protest [4.5]

1932 12 23
Mr F. Plumby of Abbey Walk, who looks after the Cambridge Greyhound racing track on Newmarket Road, said he was at work in the middle of the track when a hare dashed on to it, closely pursued by a pack of harriers. It ran right round the whole 565 yards length of the course, and just as it reached the winning-post the dogs came up with it. It ran into the space reserved for the judge, and there the pack killed it. 32 12 23b

1947 04 30
For over five hours the pros and cons of a proposal to erect a greyhound and sports stadium at Cherry Hinton were argued at a local inquiry into an appeal against the Borough Council's refusal of an application by Messrs Bartlett, Dash and Evans. The intention was to establish a handsome stadium,

which would become a sports centre for the Eastern Counties. A promoter said Cambridge was the centre of by far the largest area in England without a greyhound track. The borough surveyor said the whole idea of the town planning scheme was to make Cherry Hinton a self-contained village community. He considered it highly important that the five mile green belt should remain inviolate. The Minister's decision might be expected in five or six weeks 47 04 30

1964 07 22
Nearly 500 people attended a greyhound race meeting at Chesterton Fen Road, one of eight to be held during the next few weeks. Now organisers are planning a campaign for a permanent track equipped with floodlights and facilities 64 07 22b [11.8]

1964 11 14
During the summer a series of greyhound racing meetings were held on an improvised track near a car breaker's yard at Fen Road Chesterton. But plans for a permanent stadium may prove impractical because of drainage difficulties. If buildings containing lavatories are to be erected the problems of foul sewage disposal might prove insurmountable. There are also problems about access to the site over the Fen Road level crossing. The road is inadequate for the kind of traffic that would be attracted to race meetings. Before the war a proposal to build one at Teversham was turned down 64 11 14

1967 10 13
Greyhound racing track approved at City Football Club twice a week – 67 10 13a

1973 11 27
Cambridge greyhound stadium moves from the dog racing backwoods in February next year when their twice-weekly meetings will come under the auspices of the National Greyhound Racing Club. At present their meetings at Cambridge City Football Club's Milton Road ground are continuing on Wednesday and Saturday during the floodlighting ban with the aid of a generator installed at Milton Road 73 11 27

1978 11 23
Milton road course revived & restarts [16.15]

1981 05 09
Milton Rd new £100,000 stand packed [16.16]

1982 12 10
Cambridge greyhound track has obtained a contract with the Bookmakers' Afternoon Greyhound Service to relay its meetings to bookmaking shops on Tuesdays for 13 weeks. They have installed more security with an anti-doping chromatography unit and veterinary surgeons at each meeting. They also plan to become the only dog track offering a bookmaker service for horse race meetings the same afternoon 81 12 10a

1984 04 16
"No room in new development", finishes 1984 after 16 years, was launched to save debt-ridden Milton Road in 1968 [16.17]

Ladies hockey teams at Homerton College, 1953 *123.79*
c.38.13 : hockey

1911
Rinking very popular, carnivals at Chesterton rink & hockey club associated with it [7.12]

1931 03 13
Every woman who plays hockey is proud of Miss Gaskell. In 1914 she took the first women's hockey team to Australia and has taken teams to the United States and South Africa. During the war she became Commandant of the Red Cross Convalescent Hospital for soldiers at St Chads that was open until 1919. She then started Barton W.I. and joined the Folk Dancing Society. 31 03 13a

1938 12 05
A pavilion erected in memory of H.G. Comber and W.F. Smith was opened on the University Hockey Ground, Barton Road. Comber had been captain of the University side in 1893, chairman of the council of the Hockey Association and first President of the Eastern Counties Association formed in 1908 while Mr Smith had been its Secretary for many years and had played for England from 1911-21. Inside is a case containing a collection of old hockey and bandy sticks 38 12 05

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 02 12
Mrs J. Blackburn has been chosen to play at right inner for the East Anglian Women's Hockey Association team in their match against the Midlands, becoming the first Cambridgeshire-born player to represent the East since the 1920's. She is the daughter of Sir John Cockcroft the atom bomb scientist who is to be the first Master of Churchill College. 60 02 12

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Hunting hounds beside river, 1950s *172.90*

c.38.14 : hunting
started 23.8.2005

1907 03 01
A stag chased by the Cambridge Drag Hounds jumped into the garden of a house in Gower Road, Royston, then plunged through the window into the parlour. Two young ladies were terribly frightened as the animal dashed round, breaking chairs, pictures and mirrors until huntsmen secured it. Meanwhile the hounds entered the kitchen and devoured the whole of the family's dinner. The huntsmen continue their sport after leaving an address to which the owner should write for compensation. 07 03 01

1909 12 03
Following a prosecution of an undergraduate for alleged cruelty to a deer when hunted by the University Draghounds the Vice Chancellor has ordered that the stags kept by the hunt are to be sent away from Cambridge. In future the hunting of deer or other animals kept in confinement renders members of the University amenable to the Court of Discipline. The practice, therefore, so far as the University is concerned, is at an end CWN 09 12 03

1910 07 15
The Master of the University Draghounds was accused by the RSPCA of abusing a hind. The keeper's house at Shelford Crossing is surrounded by a wooden palisade and the animal made its way into the yard. The men used poles and brooms to drive it out and flicked it with whips. Eventually it was dislodged, only to go back again. It finally left in so exhausted a condition that it fell down and died. 10 07 15

1919 01 22

Cambridgeshire Hunt saved from extinction; Master offers to hunt county for £800, against £1,100 before the war. Could not keep a pack of hounds at that price before the war and needed more – 19 01 22a

1919 12 10
Hounds meet again. - After a lapse of six years, the Cambridgeshire Hounds met at Anstey Hall, Trumpington, the residence of Mr. G. R. C. Foster, last week. There was a good muster. 19 12 10 CIPof

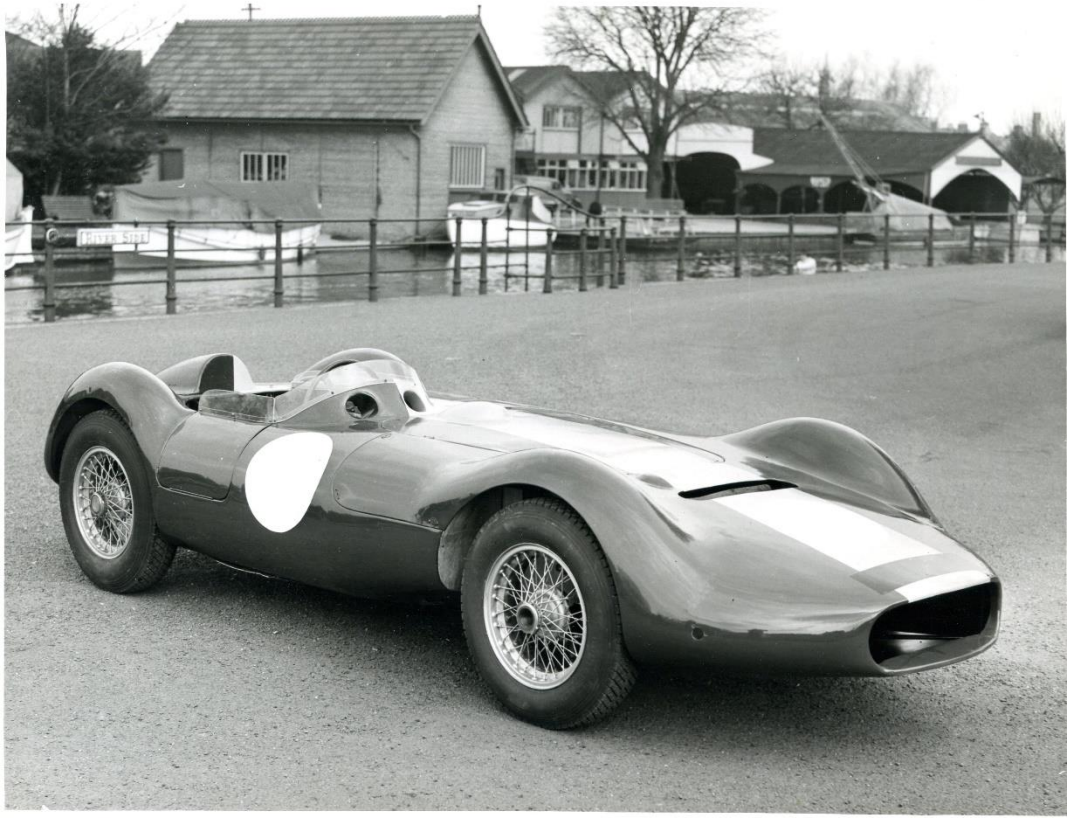
1930 12 27
The heavy rain did not deter a large number of members of the Cambridgeshire Hunt from assembling on Cambridge Market Hill for this traditionally English spectacle. The scene was one worth a soaking to witness. Figures in the traditional red and black mingled with macintoshed horsemen, their steaming mounts were restless, the hounds silent and around was a rain-drenched crowd of about 1,000 people. They took a great deal of interest in a small terrier who looked out from the mouth of a haversack slung across a red-coated huntsman's back 30 12 27a-b

1931 10 23
Cambridge University Drag Hunt first meet on Market Hill – photo – 31 10 23e

1932 10 14
Cambridge Market Hill presented an animated appearance when the University Drag Hounds held a meeting. Thirty horsemen gathered to be welcomed by the Mayor and a silver stirrup cup was handed round to all who could persuade their mounts to remain still for 30 seconds. They then moved off followed by all but one of the hounds which soon received 'instructions; from the crowd of 200 spectators and joined his comrades. 32 10 14a

1957 10 17
In the 1920s when Col. W. Whitbread was at Cambridge University he was Master of the Trinity Foot Beagles which hunted in the Swavesey district. A public house called the New Inn on the Huntingdon Road was well known to him so when his brewery bought it from Greene King they decided to rename it the 'Trinity Foot'. Now it has been completely renovated with a new sign. It was delayed when the van carrying it broke down but was quickly erected just before the unveiling 57 10 17

1980 08 15
Trinity Foot Beagles review – 80 08 15



Lister Jaguar *201.16*

c.38.15 : motor racing
started 16.12.05

1909 07 09
Trinity student killed at Brooklands motor racing track – CWN 09 07 09

1958 05 27
Early reports of Archie Scott Brown's tragic accident gave the erroneous impression that a mechanical fault in his Cambridge-built Lister-Jaguar had resulted in the crash. This was not true: the car was performing as well as ever. Archie was fighting for the lead in the Grand Prix of Spa when he hit the wall just before the La Source hairpin. Snetterton Motor Racing Club has announced that a Memorial Trophy Race will be held in his honour. 58 05 27

1959 02 23
A short ceremony will be held just before the flag drops at the next race at Snetterton. The memory of the late Archie Scott Brown will be commemorated by the unveiling of a permanent memorial in the form of a bronze head and shoulders sculptured in relief. The new Lister Jaguars are expected to make their first appearance alongside the new Lotus Seventeens and the first of the new Cooper Monacos. There is more prize money this year: the winner of the British Empire Trophy will get £400, which works out at £10 a lap, or about 70 shillings a mile! 59 02 23a

1959 07 03
Brian Lister has two great passions, jazz and jalopies. He lives on excitement, yet to see him you wouldn't think so. He's a stocky man with an India rubber face. And a grin that's as wide and welcoming as Woodcote corner. He looks a quiet man, a placid man, a jolly man. The last he is. The others he certainly is not. Otherwise he would not have had his sensational success in the business of motor racing with the Lister Jaguar 59 07 03

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1959 08 24
Lister Jaguar leave motor racing – detailed article – 59 08 24 & a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 12 30
Mrs J.A. Rayment of Cambridge was not impressed when her husband bought a go-kart and could not be persuaded to try it for some time. But when she did she was soon keen on the craze which is sweeping the country. Their son shares his parents' keenness and their 18-year-old daughter also occasionally has a drive. The Cambridge Go-Kart club has 75 members of whom four are women. The vehicles travel up to 45 mph but give a tremendous impression of speed as they are near to the ground. 60 12 30

1980 12 30
Thomas Orbell, the owner of a garage in Milton Road Cambridge for almost 50 years has died. He was widely-known in motor-racing circles because of his son, David, who won the second round of the Clubmans Register Championship at Brands Hatch in April. He was still involved in engine development for his son's present venture in Formula Three racing. 80 12 30

1981 06 26
A car sales manager for Salisbury's in Cambridge, Terry Nightingale is swapping his 135 mph Dolomite Sprint for a Mini-Metro. But this will zip along at around 120 mph and should boost his chance of winning the British Saloon Car Championship. He is one of the most successful racing drivers in his class but only races as a hobby. It can cost about £2,000 to take part in one race meeting and he has to rebuild the engine and gearbox after two. 81 06 26

Scrambling, 1950s *64.15*

c.38.16 : motorcycling

1914 07 11
Motor cycling : banned from Cambridge Town & County Charity sports due to danger, even though capacity Reduced from 300 to 250 cc [7.20]

1931 04 01
Cambridgeshire had its first taste of dirt-track thrills when a crowd of 5,000 witnessed some excellent racing on the new speedway at Caxton. The management had not anticipated such a crush with the result that the solitary entrance was sorely taxed and the pay-box nearly pushed over by the pressure of the queues. Despite showers the track rode well and although there were several falls only one rider – Buster Cray – was injured. The Eastern Counties' scratch event was one by Puff Morley, who rode in fearless style. 31 04 10h

1931 06 12
Cambridgeshire speedway advertisement – 31 06 12s

1938 09 02
Speedway enthusiasts visiting Wembley Stadium were unaware that amongst the finalists was a local man. Tommy Price was born in Cambridge and attended the old County School. An enthusiastic mechanic he acquired an A.J.S and took part in his first grass-track race at St Ives. Having moved to London he graduated to a pukka speedway machine and began his racing career with the Wembley

team competing against the finest riders in the world. He also studied aeronautics and has built several model planes which he flies at Northolt Aerodrome. 38 09 02

1954
Motor cycle scrambles have gradually caught on and last year the number of spectators has reached 10,000, the Centaur Motor Cycle Club were told at their annual dinner dance at the Dorothy. Mr L.W. Hallen, who was celebrating 21 years of business, welcomed a local prodigy, Mr Tommy Price the former World Champion speedway rider. Mr George Savage, 'Dickie' Davies and Aubrey Thompson – men whose names are bye-words in the motorcycling world – were also present. Highlights of the year included trick riding events arranged as part of the Coronation celebrations and the revival of the old game of grass track racing c54 01 05

1954 12 23
One cold December night just before Christmas 1933 a dozen motor cycling enthusiasts gathered in a room over a public house in Chesterton and decided to form the Centaur Motor Cycle Club. Pre-war it was mainly a social club catering for the weekend rider. With war came petrol rationing and shortage of oil but the club somehow kept going. In 1945 it began to get back on its feet, organising the first scramble at Caxton. They then pioneered events such as trials, grass track racing and sidecar events. Now, 21 years later, over 160 members crowded into the Dorothy Restaurant to celebrate the club's coming-of-age 54 12 23

1955 07 19
Motor cycle side-car scrambling came to the area for the first time on Sunday – and what an exciting debut it made! The Matchless Club event at Elsworth proved so exciting and such a spectacular attraction that a special handicap race was held. Brian Stonebridge, the 25-year-old scramble star from Rampton won both. Nothing could touch his B.S.A. 500 combination; he roared into every turn and jumped the bumps at full throttle. 55 07 19

1959 10 22
Brian Stonebridge, the ace scrambler, was sponsored by King and Harper and had several seasons riding BSA and Francis Barnett machines. Later he rode Matchless, then moved to B.S.A. to become one of their 'works' riders. Recently he went to work for Invacar, producing the Greeves motor cycles which were used for scrambles. He was killed when his Austin Atlantic coupe collided with an Austin 16 and was then hit by a lorry. 59 10 22

c.38.17 : racquets

1907 04 30
In the records of sport there is no instance of one family attaining greater re-eminence in any particular branch of sport that of the Gray family of Cambridge, in racquets. From 1863 onwards there have been five professional champions. Henry James Gray who was the first, is a town councillor and head of the well-known firm of athletic outfitters of Sidney Street. 07 04 30a & b

1934 01 12
H.J. Gray, the Cambridge sports manufacturers are flourishing and announced plans to extend their Playfair Works into which they moved from Searle Street 25 years ago. Now a new mill and motor engine would be introduced to keep up with demand. Henry John Gray started his career in a racquets court on the site of the present University Arms Hotel nearly 90 years ago. He became champion racquets player of England – a title that had stayed in the family for 22 years - and two his brothers became champions of the world. 34 01 12

Roller skating in Corn Exchange, 1974 *101.74*

c.38.18 : roller skating & skateboarding

1909 12 10
The new skating rink at the back of Hertford Street was constructed to avoid any noise nuisance. Rinking was a fashionable amusement and there would be a charge so it would not be overrun with the rough element. They wanted to have a string band, with no drums, to play at intervals. There was not the slightest intention of making it a dancing saloon but they would like a licence so it could be used for subscription dances during May Week. CWN 09 12 10

1910
Roller skating craze at height in 1910 with University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue, Victoria Assembly Rooms, skating rink on Market Hill and in Pythagoras Gardens where was open-air skating and shooting range – 41 05 03b

1910 03 18
A grand fancy dress carnival at the University and Town Skating Rink attracted a large crowd and many ingenious costumes were seen. When a number of undergraduates were on the rink some wonderfully complete and extensive costumes were displayed. The rink presented a very pretty appearance when the ever-changing stream of skaters was illuminated with kaleidoscopic tints from the lime lights. Roller skating is not a sudden whim and the ‘craze’ has not died out. Young and old are trying to skate in thousands of rinks all over the country and the splendid floor of the Cambridge rink has been crowded almost every day since it was opened. 10 03 18g, photo 18d

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1910 12 16
Roller skating racing holds a prominent position in the world of sport. In Cambridge a large crowd were attracted to the University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue to witness a half-mile amateur championship. It is undoubtedly one of the largest rinks in the Eastern Counties and well suited for racing. The floor was in excellent condition and the times recorded very good indeed. H.P. Pilbeam, a youngster of much promise, was leading up to the last lap but lacked training and could not stay the course. It was won by A. Gray who skated very finely 10 12 16

1910 12 23
Dr George Cunningham, dentist of King's Parade, conceived the idea of inventing a curling stone that could be used on roller skating rinks. He sought assistance from Henry Birch, a scientific instrument maker. At first the wheel carried the dust into the ball races and clogged them, so he invented a device to prevent the dust from getting in. Then he tried rubber wheels but these were a complete failure. Dr Cunningham never complained of the prices charged but disputed the number of hours it had taken. 10 12 23f

1911 04 07
Roller Skating Extraordinary. Last evening at the Victoria Rink on Market Hill, Monohan, the most remarkable skater in the world, gave an exhibition which evoked the greatest admiration. He performed many original turns, such as the candle maze, waltzing with a life-sized doll and concluded his wonderful display by jumping over five chairs. 11 04 07e

1911 11 24
The University and Town Roller Skating Rink will open its doors as the County Rink Cinema, Magrath Avenue. A small portion of the large building is being converted into an up-to-date picture theatre where the very best films will be shown. The ticket will also give free entry to the rink and use of skates. The ring will certainly be smaller but still allow for racing and hockey. Gymkhanas and carnivals will continue to be held. 11 11 24b

1928 03 22
Sir – May I draw attention to a new form of pastime which should be nipped in the bud before some fatality is recorded. I refer to the increasing practice of boys using roller skates in the streets and on the pavements. This afternoon two lads were careering along Regent Street amongst the traffic. Other towns have already taken action to put a stop to this new boyish craze and it is to be hoped that Cambridge will do likewise – "Safety First" 28 03 22

1951 04 06
Local roller skating enthusiasts are now able to get awheel in fine style at the Rex Ballroom, Cambridge, on Monday and Thursday evenings when grown ups take to the floor to music by Austen Paine and his orchestra. There appears to be no lack of demand and skaters from the surrounding villages can often be seen gyrating on the floor. The introduction of roller skating to the Ballroom has entailed no alterations to the floor, because the skates, which are supplied by the Management, have composite wheels that do not damage the polished surface

1955 08 13
The National Skating Association tests for figure, dance and pair skating were held at Cambridge Corn Exchange. All the candidates were pupils of resident instructors, Brian and Mary Jackson. Those successful included Alan Southgate (inter-silver figures), Mrs Bundy, Pat Reynolds and Myra Ellis (preliminary dance) and Ivan Ayres (bronze dance). During the evening a roller dance contest was staged between teams from U.S. Forces, St Neots and Cambridge. 55 08 13

1956 07 27
Roller skating approved at Corn exchange [5.21]

1956 10 03

Maureen Jackson, the 21-year-old Cambridge girl who has been British Roller-Skating Champion for the last three years is to compete in the World Championship in Barcelona. She only started reluctantly after the war but when her ballet dancing ambitions faded she became more engrossed in both roller and ice-skating. Her father is the instructor at the Cambridge rink. 56 10 03a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 08 17
Councillors expressed disappointment over the lack of success of the new roller skating rink on Christ's Pieces. Opened at the beginning of the present school holidays it was expected to attract youngsters. Instead it has remained unused. But children did not know the new amenity existed: there was only a small notice on a gate that was kept closed 60 08 17

1960 08 26
Cambridge roller-skating enthusiasts will be able to enjoy an extra day's pleasure this season because the man who rents the Corn Exchange rink is superstitious. John Harris, who runs a chain of rinks round the country, never likes reopening on Fridays. Local skaters took full advantage and several dozen were speeding round the wooden floor within minutes of opening time. His Cambridge manager W. Lloyd-Worth, who has spent over 50 years in the roller and ice-skating business, hopes to organise National Skating Association championships and has sought proctorial permission from the University. 60 08 26

1960 09 09
The roller skating rink at Cambridge Corn Exchange attracts enthusiasts from a large area. Saturday morning is the children's morning and with its yards of bunting, the otherwise sombre building has a carnival air. From the very young to the really quite grown up they were tumbling about, wobbling precariously round the perimeter or pirouetting stylishly in the centre. Some of the girls swooped round in short costumes while the run-of-the-mill dressed for the rough and tumble in trousers. Skaters pay one shilling and sixpence (8p) which includes the hire of skates. The rink is leased to J.W. Harris, who also has one at Hunstanton, and is managed by Mr Lloyd Worth who has been a professional in the skating business for 53 years. 60 09 09c

1972 08 12
The Mayor of Cambridge had a go at skateboarding, the latest craze among youngsters. But try as he would to keep still the board had a will of its own and he had to hold on to one of a group of teenagers who went to see him about finding a proper skateboard rink in the city. He told them he had already made a firm request for the Amenities Committee to consider their 1,637-name petition and asked if some of the city's lottery money can be spent on one. The slopes of the Lion Yard present an ideal combination of smooth surface and different angles to turn in but shoppers say it is dangerous and large areas of plate glass windows are likely to be broken 72 08 12

1977
Skateboarding : proposed skateboard park in middle of roundabout [2.6]

1977 04 12
Four Cambridge schoolboys, keen supporters of the latest skateboarding craze to hit Britain following its spread from America, have been banned from practising during the holidays on the playground of the Priory School, Galfrid Road, Cambridge. It is the second school to ban skateboards and is creating come controversy in education and road safety circles. A senior county education administrator said if there was an accident the education authority would be responsible but a senior county road safety officer said it was better to have them off the road and on to places like school playgrounds. The boys hope to establish a skateboarding club with proper facilities. 77 04 12

1978 10 27

Skateboard firms have been quietly going out of business over the summer. Few of the country's 84 skateparks have proved a success and a recent survey claimed that there were only 15,000 skaters left. This has spelled disaster to hundreds of would-be skateboard tycoons. In Cambridge there is still a hard core of skaters who show no sign of losing interest. You can find them most weekends up at the Cheddar's Lane skateboard park. "I wouldn't dream of giving up" said one 14-year-old. "I am at the height of it and I want to get more stuff". But stuff is not cheap; a reasonably sophisticated board and set of protective clothing can set you back as much as £65 78 10 27 (closes Nov 1979) [22.14,22,15]

1980 02 29
Proposal skateboard rink Barnwell Road

1980 07 11
An 11-year-old Fen Ditton girl, Lisa Colclough, has won a British women's title in roller-skating – the sport's youngest-ever national champion. She was also runner-up in figure skating. Roller-skating is run along parallel lines to ice skating – much to seriously for Lisa to take her skates out on the Fen Ditton primary school playground with her friends. They cost £200 a pair and the wheels would soon crack. 80 07 11e

1980 07 30
Proposed skateboard rink goes to Peterborough instead [17.4]

1981 07 03
Another skateboard plan approved [17.5]

1985 02 25
Artistic roller skating was demonstrated at the Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall. Most of the skaters started when the Bury St Edmunds Rollerbury opened three years ago and since then several groups have been formed in village halls. Gail Jolley of Soham took up artistic skating with her daughter Laura and has already passed three exams. Eventually it is hoped it will become recognised as an Olympic Sport 85 02 25

1987 08 05
A group of enterprising skateboard fans have set up their own club and raised £800 (£1,840 today) to buy ramps to skate on. They have been loaned £400 by Townsends toy and cycle shop and have saved the rest. Now they are looking for new members to join the club which will be based on Heath Farm, Shelford Bottom. Charles Bradford, whose parents run the farm, said "There is nowhere in Cambridge for us to skate. We have even had to go to London to find somewhere". Membership will be £10 per year. 87 08 05a

1987 09 04
Skateboarding is back! The old Skate Park at Cheddars Lane was awful, the transitions were bad and you could feel every bump. But Billy's Ramp Skate Club at Shelford Bottom is completely different allowing newer, better tricks practised by dedicated skateboarders determined to be 'rad' and not 'lame'. The right gear is a must. Outrageously decorated T-shirts, below-the-knee Bermuda shorts, baseball-style boots and the essential protective helmet, wrist-guards, knee and elbow pads are all hallmarks of a hip skateboarder.87 09 04a

A bump, c1910 *172.85*
c.38.19 : Rowing

Cambridgeshire Rowing Association history – Briscoe Snelson – 63 03 09a

The City of Cambridge Rowing Club was founded on April 20 1863. 'Town' rowing had flourished in the 1840s with half-a-dozen clubs capable of manning an eight apiece . But by the mid 50's it was mainly confined to gig-pairs and four-oared activity. At times no local crew owned even a rudder string and depended on College Boat Clubs for the loan of equipment. In 1953 the club organised the first open regatta to be held on the Cam for over 50 years and in 1961 the Leys School decided to add rowing to their athletic activities, a centenary dinner heard. 63 03 29c 63 03 29c

1868
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association formed; Cambridge Town club established 1863, followed by United College Servants & Albert Institute; CEYMS & YMCA & Pitt Press followed & felt need for governing body; because of bad state of Cam - sewage etc- University had lost every race with Oxford since 1860, subscription list opened for improvement of river, Queen Victoria gave £100; old railway bridge too narrow for rowing eights & agreement with ECR for new bridge with clearway of 60 ft; banks straightened, river scoured to depth 7-8 feet & new bridge to give uninterrupted course of 3 miles 3 furlongs from Jesus Locks to Baits Bite which improved quality of rowing [19]

1868
Bumping races re-established for local clubs [20]

1876
Rowing costs 1876 and 1960 – 60 07 08a

1883
Amateur Rowing Regatta 1883 – feature – 61 07 27

1888 03 02
Undergraduate killed in Bumps accident when pointed bow hit ribs when rowing & ribs pierced his heart, Stearn the photographer took photo which proves rudder defective [5.26, 5.27]

1892 05
Undergraduate hit by lightning during May Races [3.15]

1892 05
Last procession of boats after Bumps races, 'sent down' relating to men sent down for taking part in bonfire at St Johns [2.11, 3.13,22.3]

1899 05 31
Out of the recent split in the ranks of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. a new 99 rowing club has sprung and already it has a promised membership of 30. The authorities had adopted a policy over smoking and it was plain to them that the Boat Club would fail unless something was done to keep the members together. Mr Digby referred to the recent controversy on smoking. He was a father of five boys and if they did nothing worse than smoke when they had arrived at the age of men, he should be perfectly satisfied - 1899 05 31

1900 06 08
An accident such as that which befell Mr G. Flowers of Emmanuel College on the Cam is always to be regretted. He was rowing in the Emmanuel College boat when it was bumped by the St John's boat the nose of which came violently against his chest and he received a severe injury. Had it occurred in the days before it was compulsory to put indiarubber balls on the noses of the boats there is much reason to fear he must have been killed 00 06 08

1901 06 10
After the rowing races at Ditton Corner & when the crush of small boats was at its height, a steam launch crowded with people endeavoured to force its way through the block of boats. Frantic endeavours were made to get out of its way but the launch crashed into a boat which contained two men, who were thrown into the river. Shouts from bystanders eventually brought the launch to a standstill but no effort was made to render any assistance. What would have been the results had the boat contained ladies. All launches should have a look-out man on the bow as it is impossible to see from the stern what is happening in front CDN 1901 06 10

1904 06 10
A serious accident occurred following the 'Mays'. After the half-past six race there is usually a scramble from the course to the boat-yards and collisions are frequent. But when a steamer and pleasure craft collide the consequences are unpleasant for the occupants of the smaller boats. Two of these were overturned and their eight occupants, including ladies, were precipitated into the water but happily all were rescued. One lady excited admiration for her cool behaviour in a perilous position and managed to climb into one of the small craft. CDN 1904 06 10

1904 06 13
The Rev N.W. Shelton, vicar of Old Chesterton and his party, half-a-dozen in all, met with an unpleasant experience at the 'Mays'. The party, in an ordinary rowing boat, had left the scene of the action and arrive, after the usual difficulty, at the Pike and Eel ferry where their progress was barred for a time. During the period of waiting a big houseboat, towed by a horse, 'crashed' into the boat which it sunk and precipitated the occupants into the water. After a short period of excitement the party, which included several ladies, were landed safely on the houseboat, which proceeded on its course. It is an abominable shame that these large houseboats are allowed to travel on the river when it is crowed with smaller craft. It was going at from six to seven miles an hour and was in charge of a small boy on a horse. 1904 06 13

1905 06 10
An extraordinary incident occurred at the May Races. The stroke of the Downing boat was experimenting at the Laboratory in the morning when he was the victim of an unfortunate accident which greatly affected his eyes. To requisition another stroke would be impossible so with indomitable pluck he decided to row. This he actually did, but was blindfolded. Sadly his energies were of no avail and his boat was bumped by Trinity Hall. 05 06 10

1905 06 12
The sinister hand of Death has cast its shadow over Cambridge in its most joyous mood. In the very midst of the May Week holiday three people were drowned through the capsizing of the ferryboat known as the Red Grind at Fen Ditton. Two journeys had been made after the racing, the ferry crowded each time and when the boat was ready for the third about 20 people commenced the fateful voyage. Two University men jumped on at the last moment, the ferry gave a lurch and turned turtle pitching the screaming occupants into six feet of water. Words cannot describe the scene at Fen Ditton when the ferry sank. People in the grounds of the Plough rushed to the bank, one or two men plunged into the water, others seized chairs and hurled them towards the struggling mass in the river. Pleasure boats hurried and scurried in answer to frantic appeals for help and the Ditton men shoved off in their black fishing boats. Off the twenty or so who went down with the ferry all but three were saved. Miss Violet Handscombe was engaged to Mr Thomas Day and together they enjoyed a visit to the May races. From the Plough pleasure gardens they stepped aboard the ill-fated Red Grind ferry. When it sank Mr Day became separated from his intended bride and managed to reach the bank unassisted. Eagerly he looked for his betrothed but she had become entangled with the rail when the ferry capsized; he plunged into the river again and brought her to dry land but she had been so long under water that life was extinct. Miss Minnie Murkin is the central figure of the Fen Ditton ferry sinking. Today she was to have been a happy bride but now her body will be borne to the tomb. At her home in Selwyn Terrace the last few days have witnessed all the preliminary events that precede the wedding; presents have been arriving and her finance came from Swansea. He was on the bank, witnessed the upsetting of the boat and endured the agony of seeing his prospective bride dragged beneath the surface by the sinking craft. 05 06 12, a-c,

1905 06 13
The inquests on the three victims of the ferry sinking was opened in Fen Ditton schoolroom. The jury proceeded to the melancholy task of viewing the bodies. Those of Mrs Annie Thompson and Miss Minnie Murkin were laid side by side in a darkened room at the Plough, attired in white as for burial, and awaiting outside were the coffins. They then proceeded to a house in which Miss Handscombe was already laid in her coffin. Next they viewed the boat which had been raised from the river. 05 06 13a

1905 09 09
“Yet another boathouse - Trinity Hall ... are three handsome boathouses next door to each other - all that is wanted now is the river” [6.22]

1907 06 08
The boat procession used to be the most popular of the May Week gaieties. The brilliant blazers of the collegeians, the varied colours of the ladies’ charming costumes, the prettily adorned boats together with the enlivening strains of an excellent band all combined to make a scene of colour and animation. The gathering fell through owing to the apathy of the boating men who objected to dressing up to be looked at. But it is a great pity 07 06 08a

1907 07 27
The origin of the Cambridge Town Bumping Races is surrounded by some obscurity. It is said there were eight-oared races as far back as 1820. In 1868 the Amateur Eight-Oar Town Races were commenced but lapsed owing to the rival attractions of lawn tennis and cycling. In 1888 a silver plate was presented to the Rowing Association and since then the names of the head of the river crew have been inscribed on it, with one exception – 1894. 07 07 27

1910 06 17
Saturday's bump suppers proved exceptionally popular. It is customary for bonfires to be held in college courts and the frequent discharge of fireworks kept the fun flowing until the early hours. Jesus, who retained their position as head of the river, held a magnificent bonfire on the Close. A large crowd attracted by an enormous pile of old boxes dumped near the tennis courts, assembled in anticipation of fun before the pile was set ablaze by firing Roman candles into the heart of the inflammable mass.10 06 17

1913 03 21
Cambridge rowing coach Capt J.H. Gibbon featured in 'The World' magazine 13 03 21 p4 CIP

1913 05 30
Two undergraduates told the court they were coming up the Cam in light sculling boats when they met a tug towing a string of six barges belonging to Colchester and Ball of Burwell. The barges smashed their boat and threw them in the river. The bargee said the wind had blown the rear barges across the river and the scull had got nipped between them and the bank, despite attempts by two men with poles to avoid the accident. But a Met Office witness testified there had been little wind that day. The judge said were too many barges in the chain and the back ones would always swing. He spoke from personal experience as an old oarsman on the Cam 13 05 30 p10 CIP

1913 11 21
The Fire escape and engine responded to the alarm of a blaze at St John's College where they found a bonfire burning in second court to celebrate the victory of a rower in the Colquhoun Sculls. Fireworks were discharged and a crowd gathered to watch the glare through the chapel windows. Later a fire broke out in a wicker chair in an undergraduate's room. It is thought a spark from the bonfire may have blown through the window, or a lighted cigarette dropped in the chair. 13 11 21 p11 CIP

1919 03 12
First ladies 'eight' on Cam – Newnham college; photos – 19 03 12c

1919 05 07
Fifty years Varsity waterman; reminiscences of 'Ted' Phillips – 19 05 07e

1920 09 08
College Servants rowing eights today and long ag0 – enjoyable reminiscences – Ch 20 09 08b

1920 09 22
Sixty years on the Cam – memories of rowing, detailed article – Ch 20 09 22, a-b

1922
'99 first boat starts 5th in division & makes bump every night to finish Head of River, Wick Alsop in crew [3.4]

1927 05 16
Trinity Hall Boat Club centenary, 27 05 16 p8

1927 06
Rowing : May Bumps broadcast by BBC for first time, the Boat Club Ball a brilliant function [4.2]

1927 06 13
Jesus College were the fastest rowers on the river and deserved to succeed in the May Races. As in other years a huge bonfire was lighted in the grounds of the college and the undergraduates celebrated the return of the Headship by dancing round the flames, shouting and singing. The "orgy" was kept up

to midnight. The revels were watched by a large crowd of townspeople and some of the merrymakers engaged in good-humoured banter, amusing them with impromptu speeches. 27 06 13

1929
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association oarsman's service starts (50th 1979) [22.11]

1930 02 24
The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path 30 02 24a

1930 03 12
A crowd of nearly 3,000 massed in front of the loud speaker which Pye Radio had installed in the main window of the Cambridge Guildhall. Business in the market was suspended and the lanes between the stalls were solid with people. In the shops and offices there was a general cessation of work; counters and desks were forsaken and faces appeared at every window. There was a cheer when the Cambridge boat crew drew level and overtook Oxford. Workers hurrying home eagerly bought copies of the special edition of the CDN and pictures are being shown at the Central and Tivoli cinema this evening. 30 03 12a

1930 06 12
Diaphanous frocks gave way to less flamboyant costume and what colour there was came from the blazers of the undergraduates. On the river the most conspicuous figures was a balloon vendor selling his wares by boat. An inflated rubber swan and frog trailed behind his craft, while from the 'mast' hung all kinds of air-filled cusiosities 30 06 12a

1932 06 09
May races opening – crowds – 32 06 09

1932 09 23
Jesus College boathouse was damaged by fire; the upper floor was gutted and the stone ground floor reduced to the dismal prospect of two dozen boats of all kinds, either charred beyond repair or only slightly blistered by the heat. They included ten eights, two fours, two light pairs, two whiffs, two funnies, three tubs and three bank tubs. But the clock tower still stands and the clock still works. The blaze was spotted by a man on the opposite bank but the mist was so thick at the time that he was in doubt whether the building was actually on fire 32 09 23g

1933 01 18
Steve Fairbairn on rowing – 33 01 18

1933 03 02
Jesus college boathouse demolition following fire – photo – 33 03 02

1933 06 13
Jesus College's new boathouse was opened, nine months after the disastrous fire which had destroyed one of the landmarks of the river. It was a mitigated disaster as the original was gradually becoming too small. The clock, which was the only survival of the burnt boathouse, was still keeping good time in the new clock tower. It had been presented by Dr Morgan shortly after the old boathouse had been built. 33 06 13a

1934 02 26
Jesus College boat crew celebrated their Lents victory with a bonfire on the grass in front of the college and flames forty feet high dried the pavement in Victoria Avenue. An old boat helped to keep the fire going and when the supply of fuel ran short branches from trees were used. Police kept a wary eye on hoardings which might have been looked upon as sources but no raids were made. 250 paper glasses were provided to hold the beer but some preferred it straight from the bottle 34 02 26

1935 08 16
Edward ('Ted') Phillips was Cambridge's best-known and most popular watermen. He was Light Blue waterman, or badgeman, up to the time of his death. He started work in a boatyard at the age of 12 and was appointed Varsity waterman in 1868, erecting starting and finishing posts, repairing boats and sometimes breaking ice on the river. As a coach he had some remarkable successes. One of his most prized possessions was a photograph of his father, his seven brothers and himself in an eight together 35 08 16

1936 05 26
Town Bumping Races changes to course: to be three finishing posts - 36 05 26a

1936 10 01
A pilot summonsed for flying at a low altitude over the Cam at Fen Ditton told the court he was carrying a photographer for the Sport and General Press Agency. Herbert Cook was taking pictures of the Bumping Races from a side window using an ordinary camera with a long focus lens. They had to fly across the river and would not have got good photographs if they'd come down to the tree tops. There were a number of other planes from Marshall's flying about. Spectators complained he was too low and had caused one of the waitresses at The Plough to spill the things on a tray in the tea garden. The case was dismissed. 36 10 01 & a

1938 10 17
Downing College rebuilt boat house opened – 38 10 17b

1948 10 27
By the death of William Hines Odams the river Cam rowing fraternity has lost possibly its most colourful personality whose record is unprecedented in the history of local rowing. Stroking his first winning crew in 1887 he was recognised as the greatest oarsman that the town has produced. He never trained for any event and smoked his pipe up to the very commencement of the races, in which he continued to be engaged for upwards of 30 years 48 10 27

1949 09 06
The Cambridgeshire Rowing Association held their annual regatta on Saturday over the new course from the middle of the Long Reach to the Pike and Eel. A good crowd of rowing enthusiasts with their friends took advantage of chairs on the lawns of the Pike and Eel and enjoyed in comfort a good afternoon's racing. There can be little doubt that the finish at the Pike has come to stay, for few of the spectators will lightly forgive the CRA if they ever again return to the discomfort of a finish at the Railway Bridge 49 09 06

1950 06 08
The May Races for another year began with all their magic. The biggest disaster came during Division VI and was watched by the hundreds who lined the Gut. The bumping of Magdalene IV by First and Third Trinity VII resulted in a glorious "pile up". Peterhouse IV rammed the Trinity boat which was driven sharply into a willow tree and the water's edge. The force of the collision ripped off the bows and sent the unfortunate crew into the "swim". For the remainder of the day the crippled boat lay on the bank as a grim warning to other crews 50 06 08

1953 06 22

A chapter in rowing history was written when members of the Rob Roy Boat Club initiated their first boat, the 'John Collin' clinker eight to the river with a champagne send-off. It commemorates a man who for nearly 60 years had a brilliant record with the Club. He coached the Robs when they held the Head of the River plate on 22 occasions, and from 1914 to the present day they have always been in the first three boats on the river.

1953 08 17
When the City of Cambridge Rowing Club holds its first open regatta for generations, the least expected of the Clerk of the Weather was that he should keep it dry. He cannot be a rowing man. But with 30 events completed at the rate of one every ten minutes for five hours the sport was there both in plenty and variety

1955 02 26
More than 100 local oarsmen gathered at the Lion Hotel to pay tribute to two Cambridgeshire Rowing Association officials, Mr Briscoe Snelson and Mr Red Alsop. They both came on the rowing scene about 1910 when there were nine clubs and 18 crews in the bumping races. At that time the Rob Roy Club had been head of the river for 14 out of the previous 15 years. From 1914 the Association was dormant for five years. It was in 1930 that the Oarsmen's Service was originated; Snelson said: "I went along to see Canon Church, Rector of Fen Ditton and fixed it up. I told him we wanted to come in blazers and he replied: 'That's all right, my dear boy, come in pyjamas if you like!' 55 02 26

1955 07 08
A sculling boat to the memory of Mr Roy Burrell, a member of the '99 Rowing Club for over 30 years was named at Banham's Boatyard. He was a great sportsman who had done much for the rowing in Cambridge and a schoolmaster who had given every encouragement to youth. He would never be forgotten in the annals of the club and the records of the Cambs Rowing Association. 55 07 08d

1957 02 21
A new shelter has appeared on the towpath near the Pike and Eel. From the beautifully executed Latin inscription it is clear it has been built in memory of the late Roy Meldrum who devoted his considerable rowing knowledge and coaching skill to Lady Margaret and the Cambridge University Boat Club. This simple, dignified tribute will do a service to all who love the river, especially those who coach on the exposed banks of the Cam 57 02 21

1957 12 03
Rowing leviathan – 16 seater boat built by Banham – 57 12 03

1958 11 03
The first college boathouse to be built in Cambridge for more than 25 years was formally opened by the Masters of Corpus Christi and Sidney Sussex colleges whose Boat Clubs will share the facilities. The land had been earmarked by Sidney as a boathouse over 50 years ago. Until work started it had been used by college gardeners as a delphinium bed.58 11 03a [22.1]

1959 02 04
The '99 Rowing Club now has a boathouse of its own in this, their diamond jubilee year. They have bought the boathouse owned by Messrs Banham's at the bottom of Kimberley Road, used by Sidney Sussex College. It is in need of repair and alteration and various members have volunteered help as electricians and plumbers. It should be ready by the summer 59 02 04c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 03 15
Cambridge boat builder H.C. Banham has been asked to build a new stern section for a racing clinker which was damaged when a hippopotamus took a bite at it. They are to ship it out by air to the

Zambezi Boat Club. Mr Banham says that local oarsmen should appreciate their good fortune. 60 03 15

1960 05 26
Hold open regatta, first time crews all parts of county can compete, (by 1976 now largest one-day regatta in country) [22.2, 22.10]

1960 07 04
The '99 Rowing Club had been accused of being more of a social club than a rowing club, said the Mayor when he opened their new boathouse, the first to have a licensed bar. It has been converted from a ramshackled building with much of the work done by members. Councillor Mole recalled that when he came back to Cambridge in 1930, one of the first things he did was to join the '99 and he had soon made many friends. R. Alsop, Club President had showed him the Bailey Cup for Senior Championship Fours which included the inscription ' C. Mole, 1932' 60 07 04

1960 07 08
Rowing costs 1876 and 1960 – 60 07 08a

1962 01 04
Banham's building racing shell for Boat Race – 62 01 04

1962 01 10
This year marks University boatman Alf Twinn's silver jubilee as the man in sole charge of the Cambridge University Boat Club, although he has been with them much longer. He took over from 'Cooie' Phillips in 1937 and is only the fourth boatman in the 133 years' history of the Light Blue Club. Excluding the war years Alf has had charge of 12 winning crews, but has never seen a Boat Race. He is the only man outside the realms of inter-Varsity sport who has been awarded his 'Blue'. He got his cap in 1939 when Tom Langton was President. 62 01 10

1962 06 18
Queens college burn First boat May Races, first time won in college history [22.4]

1963 02 05
Lent Bumps cancelled due to frozen Cam, second time in 136 years [6.17]

1963 04 22
The City of Cambridge Rowing Club commemorated its centenary by unveiling a new weather vane at its boathouse. It is the oldest 'town' club and was 'Head of the River' for eleven successful years from 1951-1961. The weathervane, made by Messrs George Lister, was presented by the well-known Cambridge artist, Raymond Lister, who has a long association with the club. 63 04 22 had played considerable part in re-establishing bumping races in 1868 [20,22.6]

1964 03 02
A student prank ended in tragedy on Saturday evening when the cox of a Clare College crew drowned in the river. He had been celebrating at a dinner with the rest of the crew afterwards gong to Clare Bridge where he was thrown in. He called for help and three of his companions dived in to save him. They failed and one had himself to be rescued. Earlier the cox had been given the traditional ducking by the boat crew when he swam to the bank safely 64 03 02b

1964 06 15
1st & 3rd Trinity burn boat - & fencing [22.7]

1968 05 22
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association centenary [22.8]

1968 12 27
History of non-university rowing researched by James Moy – details – 69 12 27

1974 12 14
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association want 2,000 yard rowing course at Milton using soil for Northern bypass embankment [22.9]

1983 09 01
Two of Cambridgeshire's oldest boathouses were destroyed in a spectacular blaze; one was owned by the '99 Rowing Club, the other by the CRA. Crowds lined the banks and boat club members who had been drinking in a nearby pub risked their lives trying to save their valuable boats, flinging them into the river. By midnight only charred shells remained of the two historic landmarks 83 09 01 p1. Foundations of new laid 1984, opened December [22.12]

1984 12 10
After losing its boathouse in a spectacular fire 15 months ago, the Cambridge '99 Rowing Club is now celebrating the completion of its attractive replacement. Fortunately none of the club's eights were in the boathouse at the time of the fire. The club takes its name from the year it was founded and Banhams, the then well-known boat builders supplied the first clinker eight in 1949 to mark their golden jubilee. At the same time they were the first local club to buy a new eight. This has just been refurbished and is returning to the river looking nearly as handsome as it did in its heyday. 84 12 10

1988 02 03
College boatmen restore and repair rowing eights and fours which are easily damaged during practice or racing. They fix shoes, slides and stretchers needing attention. The number of boats has doubled since women's rowing came into its own. Alf Twin is 72 and for 53 years worked at the Cambridge University Boat Club. He served his seven year apprenticeship under the senior boatman, 'Cooey' Phillips, watching his master by day and attending classes at night. It was much more of a gentleman's sport in those days. Now the crews train harder and the boats are changing from wooden to plastic. 88 02 03a & b

A tackle at rugby match, 1950s *175.88*

c.38.20 : Rugby

1904 11 12
Last week some Frenchmen visited Cambridge. There was no doubt about their being Frenchmen. They displayed many of the features of their race, but they were also possessed of phenomenal dash and staying-power. They came to play Rugby football against a team which nominally represented Trinity College but which was far stronger than any single college could put in the field. And they beat this team completely. Many seemed surprised: "I wouldn't have thought a Frenchman could last out a game of 'Rugger'" one said. The shoulder-shrugging, frog-eating Frenchman of the story-books is a rare creature. So let's banish this nursery-bred illusion and hope one day for the friendship of this great people. CDN 12.11.1904

1905 12 02
The Cambridge University v Dublin rugby match stopped suddenly and the players hastily gathered together in a group and remained perfectly still. It seemed a new way of playing rugby, even less comprehensible that the ways of the New Zealanders. Then one of the crowd ran out with a lengthy overcoat and out of the circle emerged the form of a famous three-quarter back, shrouded in the voluminous garment. Sedately he commenced a journey across to the pavilion, but then he ran and the secret was revealed – he had rent his football knickers 05 12 02b

1907 10 10
Ever since the Cambridge University Rugby Football ground was acquired in Grange Road ten years ago, the absence of dressing rooms has been a problem. When famous clubs like the 'Springboks' and 'All Blacks' visited they had to change in the cottage at the corner of the ground. Now the new pavilion contains showers, lavatories and kitchens with a stand for 200 people. The old roofless wooden stand, long regarded as an eyesore, has been moved to the opposite side of the ground 07 10 10

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1912
Springboks visit, 8-9,000 crowd [7.8]

1913
suffragettes try to set fire to Varsity pavilion [7.15]

1913 01 10
Ruby Football club inaugural meeting 13 01 10 p10 CIP

1923 11 06
One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded 23 11 06

1959 10 06
Dickie Jeeps to retire from Rugby – profile – 59 10 06a & b

1961 01 08
Cambridge Rugby Union Club dates from 1923, although there may have been a rugby club of some sort in existence before the first world war. The Old Cantabrigians were founded sometime in the 1920s as part of the County High School old Boys' Society but lapsed and was not reformed until 1945. Shelford followed in 1935, being established by young players unable to get a game, and finally came the Old Perseans who as the Perse Wanderers appeared in July 1949, a new book on the history of the Eastern Counties Rugby Union records. 61 01 08a

1962 01 06
The University rugby ground in Grange Road is one of the finest in the country. Two years ago millions of gallons of water were pumped during the heat of the summer and hundredweights of seed used to repair the ravages of the winter season. After months of loving and expert care the groundsman defied me to traverse the pitch and produce a dozen weeds. I didn't bother to accept the challenge. The playing surface looked, if shaved, fit for bowls. It was a credit to the efforts of the Hayward family who care for it. 62 01 06

1983 09 28
Grange Road is being lit up as Cambridge University take delivery of a £20,000 present – a complete set of floodlights. The lights, which are the final stage of a campaign to turn Grange Road into one of the best-equipped rugby grounds in the country, have been given to the Light Blues by a firm of London merchant bankers. 83 09 28 p30

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BROADCASTING and MAIN AMUSEMENTS : PAGE TWO

FINAL

Cambridge Daily News

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1938 [REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION]

Dead In Underground C

OLLIDE IN NNEL

Passengers ured

PPED FOR 2½ OURS

THEIR LIVES AS A RESULT OF A TWO CITY-BOUND TRAINS OUTSIDE STATION SHORTLY BEFORE 10 a.m.

the history of London's underground.

some being treated on the spot by doctors, others being taken to nearby Charing Cross are in a serious condition.

Photo] [Cambridge Daily News

THEIR EYES ON THE BULLS-EYE

Marksmen getting down to it in the Cambs. Miniature Rifle Association's annual competition at Grange Road on Saturday.

MURDER ON SEA

Drama on U.S. Liner

COOK STABBED

Revelations at Inquest

A GRIM and tragic story relating to a murder on the high seas was told to-day at the East Ham (London) inquest on the assistant cook of the American liner City of Norfolk, who was stabbed during a voyage from Virginia to England.

ASSURANCE TO GREAT BRITAIN

New Zealand Aid If War Breaks Out

WELLINGTON, Tuesday.

c.38.21: Shooting
note: see c. 45.4 for other reports of rife ranges

1909 01 22
The Saxon Cement Works' Miniature Rifle Range was opened by Major Bourke, of Rorke's Drift fame. It has a range of up to fifty yards where rifle shooting may be practiced in fair weather and foul, in daytime or at night, electricity affording the requisite illumination. In rain the bull's eyes are accessible to the bullet fired from the verandah of a comfortable club house. Every member possesses his own rifle.09 01 22

1910 07 15
Henry James, a watercress seller from River Lane, was accused of searching for spent bullets in the soil at the Rifle Butts without having permission of the Commanding Officer of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. He'd got some girls to help to pick up about 6lbs of bullets that he'd sold to Mr Charles Carless, a marine store dealer of Broad Street. Two boys were also cautioned for picking up bullets. The Territorial Army said a good deal of damage had been done to the Rifle Butts by people picking up the bullets and they wanted to stop people buying them 10 07 15b

1911 06 15
Open-air miniature rifle range, Coldham's Common opened [1.10]

1913 11 28
Miniature Rifle Club formed 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1915 07 16
Cambridge Railway Servant's Miniature Rifle Range completed 15 07 16 p4

1916 10 11

Death Alfred Paget Humphry, deputy Lieutenant … fame as a rifle shot; fired from tower of Pitt Press aiming at the targets on Uz range at Backs of colleges; won Queen's Prize at Wimbledon; represented England etc 16 10 11a

1929 06 05
Rifle club formed, 29 06 05 p5*

1926 10 22
Grange road rifle range closed due to danger to Coton, OTC transfer to Coldham's Common [1.11]

1933 01 07
Sir – Coldham's Common could be turned into a municipal nine-hole golf course now it is no longer required for shooting. The Corporation have £700 from the War Office in compensation for not putting the Common in the state it was before the rifle range was constructed. The various firing points and the lower portion of the butts could be used in the construction of a very sporting course, providing work for the unemployed. It would be no new thing to have golf played on the Common as the first University course was there – RG 33 01 07d

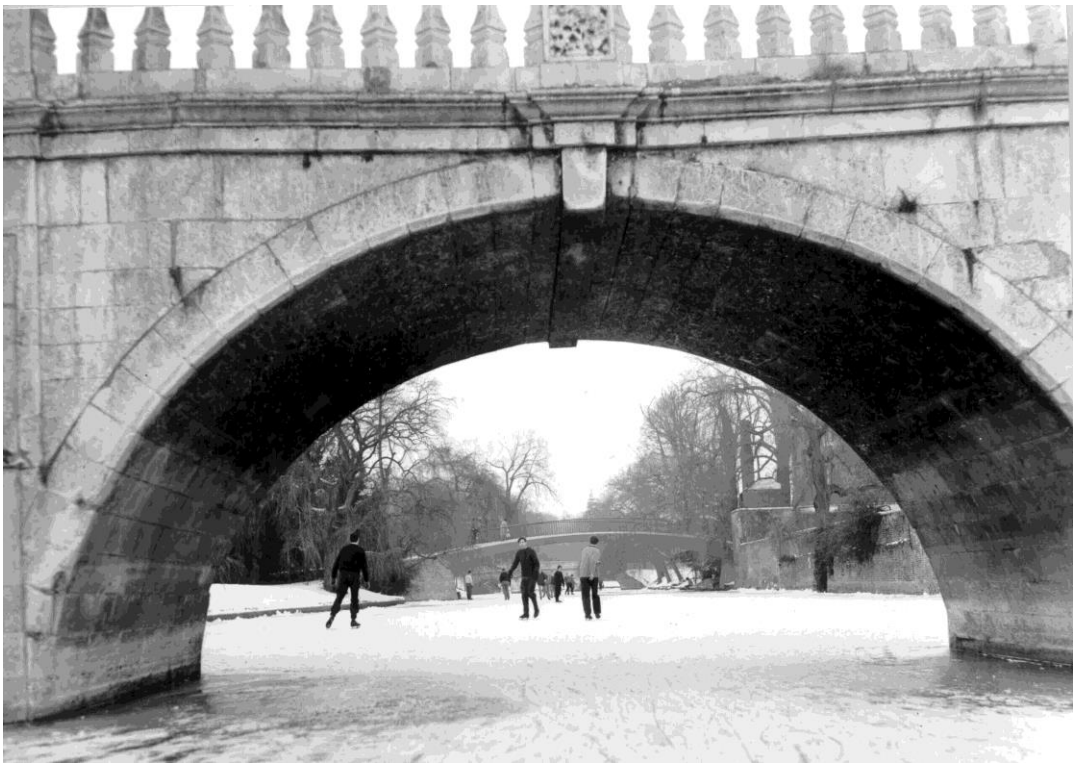
1939 07 06
Haymaking on Grange Road rifle range – photo – 39 07 06

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 06 22
Mrs Louie Wallace of Maid's Causeway has been the ladies champion of Cambridgeshire Small-bore Rifle Association for ten out of the past eleven years. She is a member of the Gogs Rifle Club which was originally the 5th Battalion Home Guard Club. It is a good sport for women as it needs enormous concentration and self-discipline. Club and county badges are worn on the back of the shooting jackets so they can be seen while the competitor is actually firing. 60 06 22

1964 06 26
A group of women meet twice a week in a corner of Cambridge police station. Some are typists, some work in laboratories and banks, but the majority are ordinary housewives. They are all rifle shooting enthusiasts who practice on the police range. They change into slacks and firing jackets, then erect target cards and collect ammunition. Their ambition is to be selected for the county women's smallbore team. Husbands and boy friends used to be rather patronising when they took up shooting as a hobby. That is until they were invited to the range one evening and given the opportunity to shoot. 64 06 26c

1981 06 19
The crack of blazing shotguns was head for the last time at Madingley as Gallyons closed their shooting ground after 70 years. Ernie Johnson has spent his entire working life there and so after 44 years of teaching, advising and correcting the technique of sporting gunmen from all walks of life he is facing his first change of job. The site is surrounded by roads and cannot expand to stage big shoots. 81 06 19



Skating under King's College bridge, 1963 *91.09*

c.38.22 : skating

for fuller record of non-Cambridge skating see the Skating Scrapbook

1860
Sir – I remember the winter of 1860 when Midsummer Common was covered with water. A severe frost set in and for two months there were torchlight processions and skaters appearing and disappearing like phantoms along the course. There was horseracing in the summer and two large wooden stands erected. Some things have not changed: the miserable, horrid, slow old 'grinds' or ferries. When will Cantabs wake up and have free bridges for foot passengers? – An Ely Old Boy 06 06 23c & d

1876 01
First skating rink opened Jan 1876 Downing St [17.2]

1888 01 06
Skating: proposal to flood Stourbridge Common for skating [5.25]

1890
During 1890-91 was 55 days frost, field behind Bartholomew's house artificially flooded, illuminated at night [17.6]

1894
Skating rink established Adams Road, developed by University skating club [446.8.3]

1895
Skating: man skates from Cambridge to Denver Sluice & back in a day [1.12]

1895
Skating on Lingay Fen in 1895 by aid of floodlighting – picture – 62 01 20a skating : floodlighting generator installed Lingay Fen [6.14,17.6]

1900 02 08
For the first time the British Amateur Skating Championship has been decided at Littleport. At no venue in Great Britain are the arrangements so to up-to-date. All Cambridge sportsmen will welcome Albert Tebbit's success. He has had to wait five years to have his third race for the championship which has always been held by a man from Welney – the little hamlet known as the metropolis of speed skating 00 02 08

1905 01 27
Skating would have been quite possible on the Electric Light Ground, Newnham, today had not some evilly disposed person drawn the water from the ground the other evening. The work was done with a care and thoroughness worthy of a better cause. The bank of the ditch which runs from the river to the pump was cut through and so great a fall allowed that the whole of the water on the ground was drained away. Two ladies heard somebody at work on the bank but imagined it was the proprietor and paid little heed. In addition to the annoyance caused the proprietor has suffered a considerable financial hardship. 05 01 27a

1906 03 24
When Albert Tebbitt was handed the King's Cup by the President of the National Skating Association he was without progeny. But within 24 hours he became the father of a sturdy boy. His own father, when 50 years of age, was still a formidable opponent and it was predicted that any son of his would become a future champion. A few jokes were cracked about a future young Tebbitt skating gaily away to the North Pole. It is possible that the glacier age may arrive during the lifetime of the latest addition to this athletic family and the predictions be quite within the bounds of probability. 06 03 24a

1908 01 10
Hundreds of London skating enthusiasts availed themselves of train excursions to the fens which presented a practically unlimited area of ice in good conditions. Miles and miles were available. Not since 1895 have Cambridge people had such a large extent of frozen river with a splendid run from the Railway Bridge to Baitsbite Locks. Even man's modern eyesores were transformed: telegraph and telephone poles were linked with strands of silken beauty and wire-netting was outlined in crystals with the fragile delicacy of old lace. 08 01 10g

1908 01 17
Ancient inhabitants rack their brains in vain for a parallel to the extraordinary weather of the past fortnight, bringing in its train a record crop of influenza. The changes from 20 degrees of frost to a damp muggy air and then back again have caused the National Skating Association to rearrange the Championships which took place at Lingay Fen in almost perfect conditions. The ice was hard and entries above average. 08 01 17b

1911
Rinking very popular, carnivals at Chesterton rink & hockey club associated with it [7.12]

1911
Field opposite South Green Road illuminated for skating, barrel organ [17.6]

1911 02 10
There was skating on Mere Fen Swavesey. In the centre the ice was fairly good and safe but at the sides it was weak and many got their feet and legs wet. Three visitors from Cambridge afforded some amusement. Declining the services of the men with chairs they sat down on the bank after spreading out handkerchiefs to protect their clothing. They put on their skates and went boldly forward. But the

thin ice near the bank gave way and one man dropped about two feet into the water. The chairmen laughed heartily and the visitors beat a hasty retreat – 11 02 10d

1922
Bartholomew's Electric Light Skating Rink, Grantchester Meadows

1925 02 02
The overnight frost in Cambridge was sufficiently severe to ensure another day's sport for skaters. At the Cambridge Sewage Farm, Milton Road, where the ice had a thickness of about two inches, skating was continued with safety and there were quite a number of people, chiefly Varsitymen, "making gay while the ice holds". The popular plus four suit and warm pull-over, is just the thing for this kind of sport, but one noticed a number skating in ordinary suits. CDN 2 Feb 1925

1925 12 04
Sir – I must utter a strong protest against the action of some person in authority in the town in trying to put a stop to skating on the Corporation Sewage Farm at Milton. It does seem a pity that when the opportunity for such a splendid form of recreation occurs only once in a generation, that some kill-joy should throw hot water, in this case, on such inexpensive pleasure for the public, with notices of 'keep off the ice', barbed wire entanglements, and a policeman taking the names of trespassers on skates. There were hundreds taking the risk of being prosecuted rather than miss the opportunity of such splendid sport - Bertram Pearson 12 12 04

1926 01 18
Skating has been in full swing over the weekend. The Cambridge Sewage Farm has been the rendezvous of the majority of skaters and on Sunday over 500 skaters were 'on' in the afternoon. Mr Nicholls' field in Grantchester Meadows was flooded and many skaters availed themselves of the opportunity it offered, whilst others went over to Swavesey. Hundreds indulged in winter sports on the slopes of Royston Heath, tobogganing and ski-ing were general 26 01 18

1929 02 14
For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface. 29 02 14

1929 02 16
All Cambridge seemed to be skating or carrying skates this morning and there is something like five inches of ice on many parts of the Granta. Eight hardy spirits took the plunge at the Town Bathing Sheds though it took nearly half an hour to break the ice. There have been bathers ever since the frost began and many of them have hardly missed a day. The cold was so severe that the comb stuck in the head of one of them who was doing his hair. But the Open Flying Mile Straight Race, fixed to take place at Cowbit Wash, near Spalding, was abandoned after the Skating Association reported that it was not possible to provide a straight mile course to conform with the conditions. 29 02 16

1929 03 02
Sir: Quite a number of people took advantage of the frozen river last weekend to skate to Ely and among them were three Newnham girls. It is 34 years since last such a journey was possible. It was February 1895 that I and two friends undertook the journey. On arrival it was suggested we continue to Denver Sluice but after two miles the ice was very bad, so we returned. I wonder how many have ever succeeded in it, a distance of 72 miles there and back. I am fond of skating and have been to Ely five times – 'Septuagenarian' 29 03 02

1929 04 29
National Skating Association jubilee 29 04 29 p8*

1931 01 16
Mr Charles Morley has presented a handsome trophy to the National Skating Association for a one-mile race for amateurs who are not holders of the first-class speed badge. At present 90 per cent of skating contests have been practically foregone conclusions as one or two skaters carry off all the prizes, by debarring these men the race will be much more open. It is to be skated on an oval course rather than one requiring a length of 600 yards. This will enable fen skaters to compete more successfully on indoor rinks and Continental courses. 31 01 16f & g

1933 01 27
Skating at Lingay fen – 33 01 27a

1933 12 18
A crowd of 200 people saw skating races for the Duddleston Cup at Lingay Fen. The ice was not of the best and records remained intact. The winner was C.W. Horn, the National Skating Association champion, whose time was very much faster than ever previously recorded, though the race has never before been over an oval course. Runners up were R. Wyman of Stretham, G.W. Martin of Nordelph and L.B. Carter of Over 33 12 18

1935 01 15
L.B. Carter the young amateur skater and cyclist of Over is proceeding to Switzerland for a fortnight's training, followed by competition as a representative of Great Britain in some international matches at Davos where all the finest speed skaters do their training. The International Ice Hockey Association is sending a team and wanted some speed skaters to join the party. The Fen Committee first approached C.W. Horn, who is in a class by himself. He was unable to accept at such short notice but Messrs Chivers allowed Carter time off work to attend. 35 01 15a

1936 02 10
Skating at Newnham – photo – 36 02 10

1938 03 04
Albert E. Tebbitt formerly of Milton and farmer of 400 acres at Wentworth was British amateur skating champion 1895-1905; won the cup outright, also winning Duddleston Cup and Cameron Cup twice. In 1895 skated dead heat with H.A. Palmer over 37.5 miles on the Cam. 38 03 04d

1954 02 02
The skating championship of the fens was held at Cambridge Sewage Farm when the Ralph Moore Cup was won by D. Beba of Moulton Chapel. 2 Feb 1954

1963 02 02
Parts of the Backs should be flooded and turned into skating rinks, says a Cambridge botanist. There are a few natural ideal spots, used for lawn tennis, which could be easily flooded to provide skating. The initial cost would be insignificant but the benefit for the young and 'young at heart' (meaning dons) would be enormous. The maintenance of the skating rink would be easily covered by a small entrance fee. And it wouldn't spoil the tennis courts as ice and snow give the best protection for the species of grasses which might otherwise be damaged by the continuous cold. 63 02 02a

1973 03 10
Ice skating rink proposed but no council backing [17.1]

1978 03 18
Agree in principle to ice skating rink on council land; [17.3]

1981 04 08
Cambridge City Football Club hopes to set up an ice rink at their Milton Road ground using synthetic ice. It would be housed in a semi-permanent aluminium and heavy-duty PVC structure which could also be used for five-a-side football, tennis and exhibitions. They hope it will be in place by June and prove a licence to print money 81 04 08

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Skittles at The Green Dragon, 1963

256.32

c.38.23 : skittles

1930 04 11
The Cambridge Skittle League was formed in August and proved that the average man was a sportsmen; a lot of people were inclined to 'run down' the public house games such as darts, dominoes and shove ha'penny. The Skittles League met the requirements of these people and what should be more natural than they should go to the poor man's club – the local inn. Publicans went out of their way to provide every amusement and recreation
30 04 11

1932 04 22
Mr E.C. Green recalled that when he was a boy skittles were played by country people in a large shed; then it was brought into Cambridge with a club room converted into an indoor skittle alley. Both the pins and balls were made of India rubber with the sides of the room padded so there should be no noise. After a time the game died out but had now once again become a growing pastime with a Cambridge League started three years ago. 32 04 22a

1977 02 05
Members of the Cambridge & District Skittles League see themselves as men of great skill and dexterity, pitting their wits against other eight-man teams in a three-dimensional game that has its own terminology. They hurl, toss or spin a flat, flying saucer-shaped cheese at a table resembling a large, sparsely padded armchair upon which are spaced nine wooden pins. Each player has a maximum of four throws to demolish as many as he can. The dedicated band of serious skittles players are a dying breed. Gone are the days when coachloads of players used to arrive long before the game to limber up. 77 02 05

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Swim through Cambridge, start of men's race, 1950s *110.46*

c.38.23 : Swimming
1888 04 20
Swimming : Cambridge University & Town Swimming Baths Company established [5.28, 6.1]

1896 08 22
Women's bathing place completed [2.16]

1906
Cambridge Amateur Swimming club formed [17.9]

1906 12 29
Christmas bathing in the river needs a Spartan spirit and a robust constitution. But in Cambridge sufficient men enjoy a jovial gathering at the Town Bathing Sheds every Christmas morning. With the mercury hovering above freezing point, water in dykes coated with ice and a keen wind blowing across the Fen, about 30 bold spirits plunged in and one swam to the Leys School. When he emerged from the water his skin had a bright red hue, but he was perfectly happy. 06 12 29b [6.23]

1908 08 11
Charles Henry Driver was appointed custodian of the Town Bathing Place on Sheep's Green five years ago. Since then he has saved 31 lives, mainly residents but a few visitors. Small wonder that recognition should be shown of his promptitude in saving life as well as of his skill in restoring animation in half-drowned persons. He was presented with a substantial silver cigarette case and a handsome illuminated address. CWN 08 08 11 p5

1910
Water-polo team successful but would improve if could practice during winter months in good indoor swimming pool [6.21]

1911 11 04
Swimming: exercise shows how Kings Mill might be converted to open air swimming bath [7.10]

1913 08 29
Swim through Cambridge – 13 08 29 05 CIP

1914 04 26
There were two rescues from drowning at the Ladies Bathing Sheds. There were about 200 ladies and children when one lady tried to stand and found she was out of her depth, this unnerved her and she sank. The assistant, Miss King jumped in fully dressed and swam to her aid but could do little until the custodian, Mrs Alden, came to her assistance. So far gone was she that artificial respiration had to be resorted to. Later Mrs Alden, who had changed into her swimming costume, jumped in and pulled out another lady. 14 06 26 p8

1920 06 21
Swimming – only one man responsible for supervision of men's and boy's bathing places, frequently by up to 3,000 in a few hours – inquest on 10-year-old boy hears; not right that small boys should bathe so close to the girls – everyone ran about half-clad – not good for morals - CDN 20 06 21

1922 07
Coldham's Common bathing pool opened [2.21]

1922 10 19
The proposed new bathing places provided a lively debate at Cambridge Town Centre. Plan A was for a bath on the far side of Sturbridge Common, not far from the railway. Plan B was for a bath on Jesus Green parallel to the river and a little above Victoria Bridge. It would be supplied by water taken from the Cam through pipes from above Jesus weir. The Bullen's Grove site on Sturbridge Common was less overlooked but the great point in favour of Jesus Green was that it was far more accessible and it was finally agreed to approve it 22 10 19

1923 08 25
Jesus Green swimming pool opened [2.24,6.25]

1924 04 30
Sir - Cambridge council practically excludes modest women - and men - from the new bathing place, unless they are prepared to do violence to their own decent instincts. What the council practically declares is in effect, 'Go and bathe as domestic animals do, male and female all together - they never object so why should you?' What this atrocious decision means is that decent men and modest women are to be excluded from all reasonable participation in a very pleasant summer exercise - A Decent Englishwoman 24 04 30

1925 07 03
The annual swim through Cambridge may be said to rank as one of the finest races witnessed since it inception. There were 37 competitors, including 14 ladies. The course followed by the swimmers from the Old Mill, Mill Lane to Strange's Boathouse, Jesus Lock, via the Backs of the colleges is approximately 1,360 yards. The town turned out in force at every point of vantage to watch the progress of the swimmers. H.P. Lavender passed the winning post barely five yards in front of Miss Lavender amidst the applause of the onlookers 24 07 03

1925 09 01

Whatever the merits of the controversy which the site of the Jesus Green Baths aroused a few months back, there can be only one opinion as to the usefulness of the baths themselves. Thousands of happy, healthy hours have been spent there this season; in the last four months 20,000 tickets have been issued for male bathers alone. With such vast number of swims it is inevitable that mishaps should occur. Mr W. Clee states that 25 rescues from drowning have been made. In most instances bathers of indifferent ability have ventured into deep water and then lost their nerve at the thought of not being able to swim to the ladders. In addition nine children have had to be pulled out of the river opposite the bathing sheds. Despite a warning board children persist in paddling and frequently venture into water that is too deep 25 09 01

1931 07 24
A unique performance has been accomplished by Jack Overhill of Trumpington who, although only three years of age, has mastered the art of swimming. The tiny record breaker is also the youngest member of the Cambridge Amateur Swimming Club. He has been a real 'water baby' since his first introduction to the river at the age of one year and nine months. Since May he has been in the river twice daily, even during cold spells 31 07 24a

1934
Granta Swimming Club formed, starts swim from Grantchester Mill to Sheep Green (later changed to swim through Cambridge) [17.10,18]

1935 04
Plans for palatial swimming stadium announced, behind Parkside, 100 ft x 42 ft with glass screen in tea room allowing patrons to watch bathers; did not materialise; two years later two privately owned syndicates decided erect indoor bath, came to nothing [25]

1935 08 02
The new swimming bath on Coldham's Common was opened by the Mayor, Alderman R. Starr. There was some regret that his Worship did not take the first plunge into the 150 feet long pool, which takes its water from the high level stream, and youthful spectators had to be restrained from going in as soon as the doors were unlocked. There is a diving tower and spring board at the deep end with dressing sheds and a space fenced off for sun bathing. 35 08 02a [1.14]

1937 07 29
Charles Henry Driver, custodian of the Town Bathing Sheds at Sheep's Green since 1903 is to retire. He has saved over 90 lives, receiving several life-saving certificates. It will be children who will miss him most, even though most of them only know him for the firm way he suppresses outbreaks of youthful over-enthusiasm. He has taught hundreds of them to swim. His fancy dives are a speciality and his appearance on the diving board is the signal for a crowd to collect to watch him 37 07 29

1938 01 15
'Charlie' Driver, the popular custodian of the men's bathing place, Sheep's Green, was presented with a chiming clock at his retirement after 34 years. It was a credit that there had been no drowning cases during his term of office. Parents knew that their children were in safe hands and he took care about its appearance. The Superintendent of Commons, A.O. Richardson, recalled that he had been reprimanded by a small boy for walking on the grass with his boots on – "You won't half cop it when Mr Driver sees you". 38 01 15

1938 03 24
Plans for an indoor swimming pool for Cambridge were rejected by councillors. Swimming was healthy exercise for children and there was no evidence that epidemic diseases were spread by indoor baths. It would help solve unemployment in the building trade and Cambridge was one of the few towns without one. But Saffron Walden baths were built in 1910 when costs were much lower than today and they did not pay. People would still prefer the river in summer time. It would be better to have baths just for children that adults could use in the evening. 38 03 24b

Petition in favour indoor swimming pool raised but spoilt when ink upset over it; by time recirculated war broke out & plan shelved ¢CEN 17.12.87

1938 10 15
Indoor swimming pool possible – cartoon by Searle – 38 10 15bb

1947 04 22
The Cambridge sporting fraternity has lost one of its most colourful characters by the death of Mr Charlie Driver. His aquatic achievements are legion and more than 90 people owe their lives to his life-saving prowess in the water. Among many tangible reminders of his contributions to the art of life-saving is a silver cigarette case presented to him as long ago as 1908 on behalf of readers of the Cambridge Daily News in recognition of his skill and promptitude in saving 31 lives from drowning at the Town Bathing Place. He retired after 34 years of service as custodian of the ton bathing sheds on Sheep's Green, only to come back again and carry on during the war years. Putting the clock back some 60 years one recalls how, at the old swimming sports at the Old Ladder on Sheep's Green, he made us envy his skill in bringing to the surface the largest number of plates cast in the river, to win the prize for that event 1947 04 22

1953 12 04
Cambridge councillors approved a £22,000 scheme for the improvement of Jesus Green Swimming Pool despite fears that this might prejudice chances of an indoor pool. It was an outdoor pool, used for about 110 days a year; last year 55,000 people used it but it ran at a loss and each one cost the City sixpence. It would be filled from the mains & filtered to remove impurities. More would use it if they could go into water that looked like water and not soup. Others thought they ought to enclose half the present bath so it could be used all year – but this would make it look like a shed and bring criticism

1957 07 20
A giant super-modern heated indoor swimming pool with a roof-top restaurant may be constructed on Donkey common. It would have space for 230 bathers with 600 spectators, parking for 35 cars and 200 cycles and a view across Parker's Piece from the restaurant. Changing rooms for footballers and crickets could be installed later. It could be in use within three years. 57 07 20a & c

1958 02 26
Manor school heated pool plans – 58 02 26d & e

1958 08 01
St Faith's School has a new swimming pool built by voluntary labour. The Headmaster, Mr F.M. White, says it only cost £280. They were encouraged by the success of a small primary school in Huntingdonshire which was funded by their Parent-Teach organisation three years before. The basic requirements are an enthusiastic staff, an able school handy-man and above all the technical advice of an enthusiastic expert. He must remain nameless, otherwise he'd be inundated with similar requests. 58 08 01a

1959 09 23
The Headmaster of Fawcett Junior School, Trumpington (Mr F.N. Walker) declared the school's new swimming pool was "well and truly open" after he had been pushed fully dressed into the water. Roars of laughter came from the Mayor (Wallace Cole), Mayoress and parents who were present but the Head took his ducking in good part and swam vigorously for half a length. The pool has been built by the parents with the help of the children themselves. 59 09 23

1963 01 19
Parkside pool filled with water for first time – 63 01 19b

1963 04 01

Parkside indoor pool was opened by Ald Ridgeon and dozens of young members of Cambridge swimming clubs who had been sitting round the edges of the pool jumped into the water, splashing and cheering. A colourful and exciting gala followed featuring Linda Ludgrove, the double gold medallist at the Empire Games, and several Olympic swimming stars. The new building, which took three years to erect at a cost of £250,000, contains two heated pools; the main one has diving boards while the beginners' pool has a constant depth of two feet six inches. 63 04 01 talked of for 100 years [6.16,17.8]]

1969 07 11
Swim through Cambridge – exiting finish to women's race & photo – 69 07 11

1972 02 04
Jack Overhill confessions of barmy winter bather at Sheep Green – 72 02 04

1976 06 21
The annual swim through Cambridge, organised by the Granta swimming club, has had to be cancelled for the first time in about 40 years because of the low level of water in the river Cam. Because of possible pollution problems they dare not risk the health hazards involved but hope to put the event on again next year. Typically 70-75 women and about 80 men would enter the event 76 06 21

1984 04 24
Plan to sell Parkside Pool for private development for water leisure centre [24.2]

1987
Multi-million plan for leisure sports & tourist hotel linking Sports Hall & Swimming Pool; Parkside pool losing £1,000 per day [NS.1.8]

1987 08 13
A News reporter visited Cambridge's three main swimming pools. First stop was the Abbey outdoor pool where each morning attendants try to remove the frogs which hop into the water from a nearby ditch overnight. The changing room is a bench behind a hut and the water felt like freshly-melted ice. Jesus Green may only have 20-30 swimmers a day but they are real regulars, including Arthur Mansfield, 77, who swims a quarter of a mile most days as he has since 1922. Then I followed the smell of the chlorine to Parkside Pool which was the hottest but far from enjoyable 87 08 13a & b

1988 03 17
Parkside swimming pool plans for water sports complex – 88 03 17a

1989 04 22
£1M plan convert Parkside swimming pool into water leisure centre scrapped ¢CEN 22.4.89

1989 04 29
Labour to press ahead with Parkside pool scheme ¢CEN 24.4.89

1991 02 16
Parkside Pool could be sold for housing with multi-million pound indoor water leisure centre built at King's Hedges – plan – 91 02 16

1999
Parkside Pool reopened after rebuild, Apr [Rev]

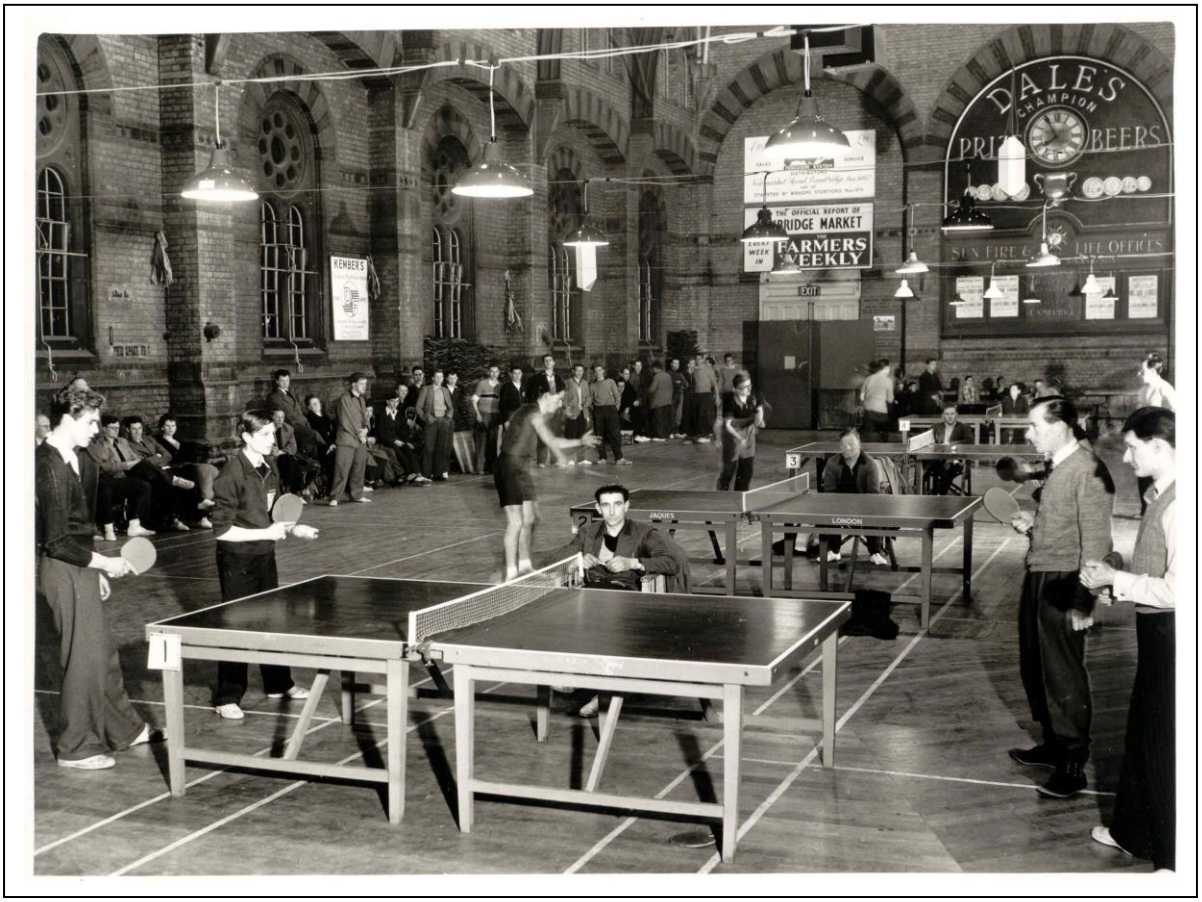

Table Tennis championships, Corn Excchange 1956 *110.85*

c.38.24 : Table Tennis

1901 05 01
"Ping-Pong was invented by Mr James Gibb, an old Cambridge athlete now living at Croydon. It was started one evening with champagne corks cut as nearly circular as possible, and the lids of cigar-boxes for battledores. Then he tried indiarubber balls covered with cigarette paper to make them look very white but he was not satisfied and sent to America to have some celluloid balls made. Mr Gibb was one of the best all-round athletes of his day. The game he invented continues to rage virulently in society 01 05 01

1902 02 04
In at least one thing Cambridge is abreast of the times. She has the craze for ping-pong, or to call it by its more dignified name, table tennis. For a long time past the ping of the racket could be heard coming from the houses of the up-to-date. By Christmastime ping-pong parties had become quite general, ping-pong clubs were formed and now Cambridge has been brought into line with the metropolis by holding a tournament. It was to be held at the Conservative Club, but owing to the large entry it was decided to transfer operations to the Corn Exchange. The one table reserved for ladies was always an attraction. The lady competitors, generally in smart costumes, played a milder game, though there were some who would have made the male sex jump about. CDN 1902 02 04

1902 02 06
We have all heard of the rise of ping-pong as well as predictions of its decline and fall. It would appear that Cambridge people, who were not behindhand in the appreciation of the attractive game, have already lost some of their liking for it. The opportunity that the Imperial Ping Pong Tournament offered to local players to compete for handsome prizes valued at 45 guineas has not been extensively accepted. At no time during the evening was there a very large attendance. 02 02 06

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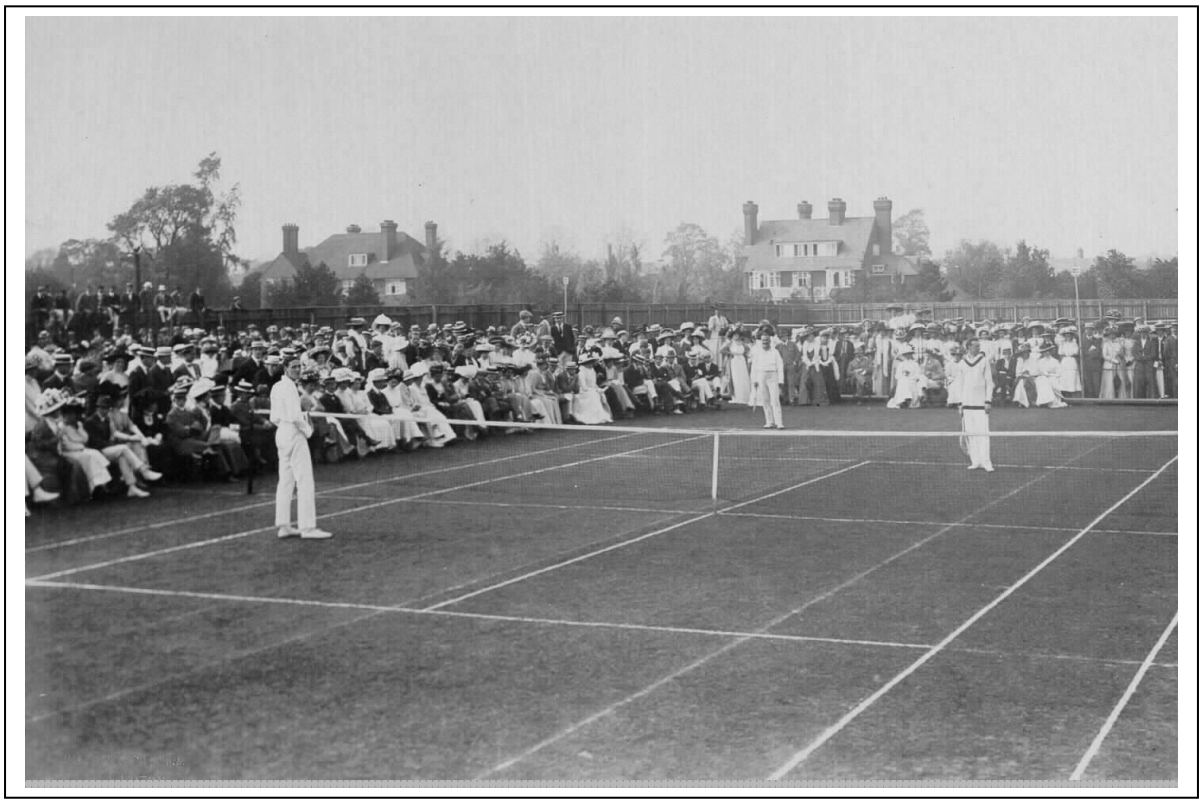
1902 02 25
We understand a Ping Pong Club, open to residents in the New Town district of Cambridge has been started. The large room of the New Town Conservative Club, Russell Street, has been secured, and two Whitmore patent tables are provided. The hon secretary is Mr E. W. Illsley of 23, Bateman Street CDN 1902 02 25

1930 04 19
Cambridge has yet another claim to distinction. Mr James Gibb, who died recently, was the inventor of the game of ping-pong which enjoyed a tremendous vogue about 30 years ago. He was an old Cambridge athlete and started the game one evening with champagne corks cut as nearly circular as possible and the lids of cigar-boxes for battledores. Then he tried India-rubber balls covered with cigarette paper before finally sending to America to have celluloid balls made. 30 04 19b

1936 09
Cambridgeshire Table Tennis association formed [17.12]

1962 05 19
Cambridgeshire Table Tennis Association was formed in September 1936 and won their first match against Bury St Edmunds with a team comprising Messrs Humphries, Betterman, Stearn, Constable and Nunn. The finger spin service which was then very fashionable tended to bemuse the Cambridge players to a certain degree. Youngsters John Thurston and George Lawrence made a name for themselves while John Cornwell had several fine victories over international players. The Y.M.C.A. team were county champions in the inauguration year and repeated the feat in 1962 – the Silver Jubilee year. 62 05 19



Tennis match c1910 *58.41*

c.38.25 : Tennis & Real Tennis

Cambridge University Croquet & Lawn Tennis founded before 1885 by & for senior members of Universities of Oxford & Cambridge [17.14]

1914 02 13
Brickfields on Milton road reclaimed & converted into tennis courts, 6 hard & 9 grass with 6 more in preparation [7.18]

192-
Arbury Rd rapidly growing... post WWI fields converted University Tennis Courts, George VI & Duke of Gloucester played; [446.8.5]

1922 01 28
Lawn Tennis league inaugurated [6.26]

1925 02 27
Despite a shower of rain a number of tennis enthusiasts were present on Jesus Green when the Mayor opened Cambridge's first public hard tennis courts. They are situate opposite Strange's Boatyard and a part of the council's plans to develop Jesus green into a recreation ground, with facilities for a variety of games. Directly adjoining are the grass courts, nearby is the bowling green whilst further afield cricket pitches are being laid. All these will be in use by May 25 02 27

1939 01 07
Cambridge Town & County Lawn Tennis club to have last season on existing ground in Madingley Road and Wilberforce Road; will move to fine ground nearer centre town with 16 to 20 first-class grass and one hard court 39 01 07

1964 04 09

Cambridge University Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club, known as the 'Cock and Hen' club is moving to a new home on Madingley Road. It is the oldest tennis club in Cambridge founded before 1885 by and for senior members of the Universities of Oxford & Cambridge who were expected to join in pairs – hence the name. Now half are townspeople. Croquet has not been played since the Great War but some say a lawn could be laid at Gilling Paddock. 64 04 09b [17.14]

1964 05 11
Cambridge has one of the few public croquet lawns in England. It is on Christ's Pieces, next to the bowling green. It is almost exclusively used by undergraduate members of the University Croquet Club to whom most of the equipment belongs. Although only three years old they have gained a reputation for their enthusiasm and high standard of play. Anyone can take part but it is not a game suitable for the infantile or the senile 64 05 11

1969 12 02
Real Tennis : in 1900s were nine courts, Grange Rd sole 118 year-old survivor [12.2]

1984 06 02
Young Cambridge tennis starlet, Ginny Humphreys-Davies has become a British champion for a second time. The 12-year-old St Mary's Convent pupil overcame an attack of nerves to win the Prudential hard-court championships in Edinburgh. Cambridge now has two British junior tennis champions following Teresa Catlin's victory in the under-14 age group last year 84 06 02 p1

Tiddlywinks contest in Guildhall, 1958 *201.19*

c.38.26 : Tiddlywinks

1955
Launched in modern form by undergraduates from Cambridge [11.12]

1958 01 18
University v Goons tiddlywinks match – 58 01 18

1958 03 01
The Duke of Edinburgh sent a message regretting that he was unable to take part in a tiddlywinks watch at Cambridge Guildhall: "While practising secretly I pulled an important muscle in the second or tiddly joint of my winking finger. But wink up, fiddle the game and may the Goons' side win"". In his absence the Goons team, including Spike Milligan, Harry Secombe and Peter Sellers were defeated by Cambridge University. They were not helped by an eccentric uniform and intervals for refreshments such as leeks, sticks of rhubarb and glasses of Champagne perry 58 03 01a

1977 03 19
Cambridge University Tiddlywinks Club now has 21 members. In action in a dingy cold room upstairs at the Castle pub, Castle Hill they slouch on all fours over the felt mat playing area and talk intensely of tactics using weird words like bristolling, crudding and squopping surface. To a certain extent the dedicated members of the winking world feel under threat, their skills unrecognised by the mocking, unwinking masses, but say that tiddlywinks can give back health and mental stability to those who are ravaged by the complexity and over-mechanisation of modern life 77 03 19

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1980 02 04
Cambridge University tiddlywinks club sponsor first world championships singles competition [11.13]

1985 11 26
Tiddlywinks world championship held at Churchill College – 85 11 26a & b

1986 03 11
Tiddlywinks players competed for the Prince Philip Silver Wink, the universities annual championship established by the prince in 1961. Cambridge University developed the now internationally-accepted rules in 1955. Each game lasts 25 minutes and there are five complete rounds to shoot. The most important skill is 'squoping' – the art of covering up winks. A Varsity match was established against Oxford University in 1958 but in this year's competition Cambridge was beaten by Southampton despite having a world record number of players to choose from 86 03 11a

Water polo, 1950s *201.20*

c.38.27 : Water-polo

1910
Water-polo: team successful but would improve if could practice during winter months in good indoor swimming pool [6.21]

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CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Saturday, September 20, 1958

WRESTLING RETURNS TO CAMBRIDGE

Large Crowd Gets First-Class Entertainment

THE re-introduction of professional wrestling to Cambridge by Dale Martin Promotions Ltd. proved to be a very popular one judging by the size of the crowd which filled the Corn Exchange last night.

The entertainment value was first-class but the promoters must heed the criticisms made to us by several customers as to the chaotic seating organisation. If they are to cater for such a crowd as last night—and it must have gladdened their hearts—then this must be priority No. 1 with them.

The main event was an international heavyweight contest between Tibor Szakacs (Budapest) and Joseph Zaranoff, of Russia, which the former won by two falls to one in the last of four rounds.

In the first round the Russian obtained the first fall with a reverse power body press after some fine wrestling. Szakacs had his opponent in a bad way at end of second round with a leg and arm lock.

The Hungarian evened things by gaining a fall by using the reverse underleg half nelson after taking four counts from heavy standing arm rolls.

In the last round Zaranoff had his man at his mercy and Szakacs took seven counts before he suddenly caught the Russian with a tight fall with a reverse arm and leg lock.

In another heavyweight contest Spencer Churchill (London) met Charlie Fisher (Eltham) and despite the former's salubrious name he had to admit defeat by two falls to one.

SUBMITTED.

Fisher obtained the first fall in the second round when Churchill submitted when caught with a reverse headlock. The latter in the next round had Fisher in a similar hold to equalise. Fisher mastered Churchill with a reverse leg and body press in the last round.

Tommy Mann (Manchester) beat Al Nicol (Nottingham) at catch-weight by two straight falls obtained in the third and fourth rounds. Nicol was forced to submit twice with a standing back-breaker and finally a knee back-breaker.

The programme was completed with a welterweight contest which terminated in the third round by a knock-out obtained by Mick McManus (London) over his opponent, Packie Pallo (Highbury). There were thrills a-plenty until McManus caught Pallo with a flying shoulder

Photos "Cambridge Daily News"

Top—Spencer Churchill jumping on Charlie Fisher on whom he has a wrist and arm lever hold. Below—Tibor Szakacs being thrown by Joseph Zaranoff.

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c.38.28 : wrestling

1905 11 14
The Cambridge Hippodrome has secured the services of Alec Bain, one of the best-known wrestlers in the country. He offers £20 to any man he fails to defeat in 15 minutes or £50 to anyone who defeats him. His opponent in a 'catch-as-catch-can' contest was Mr Davis, a well-known local exponent of physical culture. For eight minutes he extricated himself from dangerous holds but then was fixed in a 'hammer-lock', a hold he claimed was not allowed as it was very dangerous. But the referee's judgement was in favour of Bain. 05 11 14a

1922 10 13
Ju Jitsu: Cambridge Corn Exchange was crowded last evening on the occasion of a boxing tournament. In all the events there was some capital fighting. The audience also had the privilege of witnessing an excellent exhibition of Ju Jitsu and Katsu, in which the participants were Harry Hunter of Broadstairs, England's greatest exponent of Ju Jitsu, and Mr W. Saddington, the local expert in the art. Various throws and locks were shown but the one which interested the audience was that of throwing and rendering an opponent unconscious in a few seconds, and instantly reviving him by Katsu, the Japanese method of restoration

1926 06 01
A demonstration of ju jitsu was given in Cambridge by Mr A.J. Morgan and C.W. Boxsell who deputised for Professor Saddington and the son of Professor Sitton, the old University boxing instructor. A carpet about five feet square was requisitioned for a mat and Professor Saddington supplied ju jitsu costumes. The proceedings opened with a demonstration of "Kime-no-Kata, or ju jitsu self-defence methods. This was followed by methods of defence against an armed assailant which was loudly applauded. A display of ju jitsu wrestling literally brought the house down c26 06 06

1938 01 11
Wrestling at Corn Exchange – 38 01 11

1951 05 04
Wrestling : banned from Corn Exchange [3.21]

1958 09 20
The re-introduction of professional wrestling to Cambridge by Dale Martin Promotions proved very popular. Large crowds filled the Corn Exchange to watch an international heavyweight contest between Tibor Czakacs (Budapest) and Joseph Zaranoff of Russia. Spencer Churchill (London) lost to Charlie Fisher of Eltham and Tommy Mann of Manchester beat Al Nicol of Nottingham by two straight falls. Then Mick McManus knocked-out Packie Pallo with a flying shoulder charge. 58 09 20

1978 03 03
'Giant Haystacks', otherwise known as Luke McMasters, towers above every other wrestler in the British ring at 6ft 11in and 32 stone and you could only pity tiny 15½ stone Mike Marino as he stepped into the Corn Exchange ring to pit his strength against him. The bout looked over when Haystacks body-slammed Marino to the canvas and, with a contemptuous glance, headed for the dressing room. But incredibly Marino managed to stagger to his feet before the count ended and Haystacks could not lumber back into the ring in time. Earlier a crowd of 700 watched Bert Royal and Vic Falkner beat Hungarian exile Zoltan Boscik and Britain's Chris Bailey. 78 03 03

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